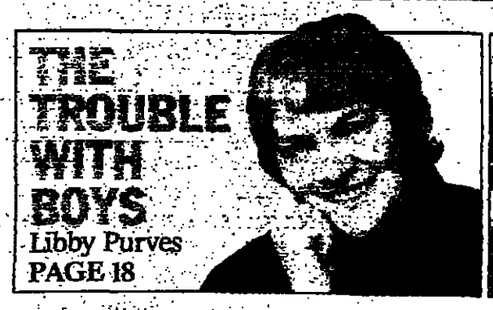
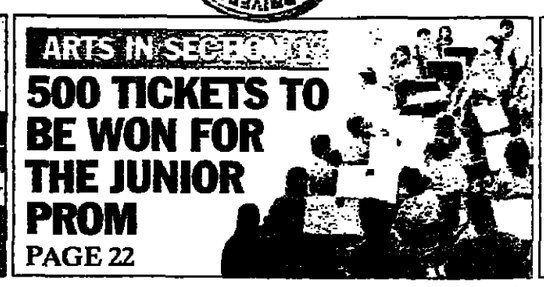
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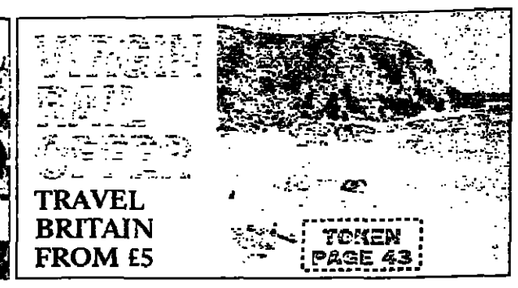
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Rivals 'would make us unelectable'

Clarke warns Tories of risk on the Right

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE delivered a stark warning to the Conservative Party last night that it would make itself unelectable like the Labour of the early 1980s if it swung to the Right and became more anti-European.

He enlivened the Tory leadership race by claiming that the stance on the single currency adopted by the other five candidates "would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics."

Mr Clarke, the former Chancellor, wrote a three-page letter to Conservative MPs in which he put himself forward as the man who could defeat Tony Blair in a 2002 presidential-style election.

In response to those who argue that he is too pro-European to be the Tory leader, Mr Clarke said that while unity was essential it was not an end in itself to be secured at the expense of wider public appeal and electoral success.

He reminded MPs what happened to Labour; it chose Michael Foot in preference to Denis Healey because the latter had offended the unilateralists. But it failed to convince the voters in 1983 and cleared the way for another 14 years of Conservative rule.

He added: "I believe firmly that if the Conservative Party is perceived to swing further to the ideological right and also to become hardline nationalist and anti-European it will make itself unelectable.

"The British people did not vote for Tony Blair because they thought the Conservatives were not sufficiently rightwing or Eurosceptic. When Blair betrays their trust, many of the moderate voters who have left us could turn to the Liberal Democrats if they believe that the Conservatives have migrated to the hard right of politics."

> "The infighting and Mr Clarke's letter underline the parlous state of the party."
>
> *— Peter Riddell, page 10*

Mr Clarke added: "If I could not be leader because I was seen to be too much pragmatic centre and not enough ideological right, that will send a most disturbing message to the electorate."

He said that the Tories must settle their "corrosive internal debate about Europe" on the basis of a policy stance that would last through five years of opposition and into government.

But he stood firmly behind the wait-and-see line on the single currency against which many Tory candidates rebelled at the election.

Referring to his opponents Michael Howard, William Hague, Peter Lilley and John Redwood, he said that four were against the single currency in principle. Referring to Stephen Dorrell he said the fifth believed that Britain should declare that no more work should be done.

He went on: "I believe that such policies would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics. It is not just that the prudent politician knows that you should never say never, nor that the public favour keeping the options open. Most of the business and financial community of this country would reject such a dogmatic and isolationist position and reject our party if we espoused it."

Mr Clarke said that Britain should remain opposed to joining the single currency "unless and until we could be satisfied on compelling evidence that it was in Britain's best interest to join."

But he said: "If EMU were ever to go ahead on the Continent and if it were to be successful we would come under immense pressure to join it in the interests of British industry and commerce. Personally I doubt very strongly if both of these conditions will be satisfied in this parliament but I do not think it is sensible to rule them out for all time or for any fixed period of time."

In a final dig at the Right he said that there was "no instant ideological alternative - as Newt Gingrich and the American Republicans discovered to their cost."

Brown charms Brussels on VAT

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, charmed European finance ministers yesterday and won agreement for his plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel. He also quashed speculation that the Labour government could take Britain back into the exchange-rate mechanism. Page 2

RICARDO MAZALAN/AP



Susie Maroney in Havana shortly before swimming the 112-mile Straits of Florida

Woman foils sharks in record swim to Florida

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

AUSTRALIA'S long-distance swimming champion, Susie Maroney, yesterday became the first person officially to swim unassisted across the 112-mile shark-infested Straits of Florida separating Cuba and the US mainland.

"I'm really happy about it," said an exhausted but smiling Miss Maroney as she stepped gingerly ashore at Key West, where a crowd of 150 greeted her. Asked how she planned to celebrate she replied: "Just to rest."

Swimming in a 28ft-by-8ft shark-proof cage, and smeared with Vaseline and suntan oil, the 22-year-old from Sydney overcame heavy seas to complete the distance in 24 hours, 20 minutes — more than ten hours faster than had been expected.

She had a late scare when sharks circled her cage, which began to weaken during the crossing. "We had a big hammerhead shark swim by and a big black fin shark too," said Joe Pignatiello, a member of Miss Maroney's support crew aboard an escort boat.

Miss Maroney, who has been swimming long distance since she was 14, already holds the record for the longest distance covered in 24 hours — 58.5 miles — and is the fastest woman to make a double crossing of the English Channel (17 hours, 15 minutes).

Swimmers had failed in more than 20 officially recorded attempts to make the hazardous Caribbean crossing. One man, Walter Poenisch, says he made the swim unassisted in 1978 at the age of 64, but his claim is not verified by independent observers.

Due to tides and a strong cross current, swimming the Florida Straits is regarded as about the most arduous endurance feat a swimmer can attempt. The unassisted, uninterrupted swim means that Miss Maroney could not sleep and was not allowed to touch the cage — floated by buoys and dragged by a support vessel — during the crossing.

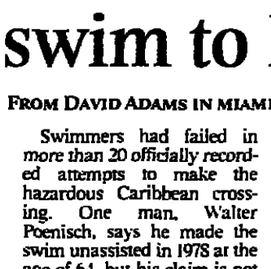
She was only permitted an hourly break, treading water while being fed high-protein and super-hydrating drinks, as well as occasional spoonfuls of easy-to-digest baby foods with yoghurt and chopped bananas. Bad weather thwarted an earlier attempt by Miss Maroney last summer when she was hauled out of the water only 12 miles from the Florida coast after swimming for 38½ hours. On that occasion she became dehydrated from vomiting after rough waves made her seasick. She vowed she would never try the swim again.

"It became a little scary," she said afterwards, recalling hallucinations of monkeys and Santa Claus in the sea alongside her.

Her second attempt was dogged by delays and Cuban bureaucracy. One of her support team was arrested and deported from Cuba because of a visa problem. Cuban authorities also briefly impounded the shark cage for 24 hours because of missing paperwork.

After a frustrating week studying satellite weather maps in Havana, conditions improved over the weekend. She made good early progress, averaging more than four miles an hour, after diving into the sea off Havana's rocky coast at midday on Sunday.

Even so, several hours after she set off, a low pressure system unexpectedly swept across the Gulf of Mexico. But the bad weather passed quickly and Miss Maroney ploughed on.



Labour plans tough rules to end late bill payments

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR will tomorrow hand a £2 billion lifeline to Britain's hundreds of thousands of small companies by unveiling tough proposals to stop the late payment of bills.

A Bill to give firms the statutory right to charge interest on accounts that are unpaid beyond a specific date emerged last night as the surprise inclusion in the Queen's Speech that will open the new session of Parliament.

Under the legislation large companies, regarded as the main offenders, will be required to show in their annual reports the proportion of their bills that were paid late. The measures are being brought forward at speed because the Government accepts that late payment sometimes forces firms out of business that would otherwise be solvent. At present, bills tend to be paid several weeks after the first invoice is sent out.

The Government will consult business leaders before fixing a timescale — perhaps a month or six weeks — after which it will be possible to charge interest on any debt.

Government departments and local authorities are also being ordered to pay their bills on time as the Prime Minister tries to convince small businesses that Labour regards them as an essential cog in the modern economy. Throughout his leadership, and particularly during the election campaign, Mr Blair let it be known that he set huge store by the small business vote, and Labour surveys have disclosed that the party won widespread support from the employers and staff in small companies.

Considerable work was done on the proposals in Opposition by Barbara Roche, whom Mr Blair appointed Small Businesses Minister after the election, and she will pilot the Bill through the Commons.

The Forum for Private Business said last night that at any given time about £20 billion was owed to the private business community in Britain. It is estimated that the yearly cost of late payment was £2 billion.

While it was rare for companies to fail solely because of late payment, the forum said late payment was often the "last nail in the coffin" for many businesses.

Ministers said last night that there was a culture of late payment in Britain that had to be changed. "We hope this will be an important contribution to that," one said. Surveys of business have shown that late payment is at the top of the concerns of small firms, and Britain is one of only a handful of European countries that does not have a statutory right to interest.

Mr Blair will also foreshadow tomorrow a £6 billion public housing programme over the next few years. It has emerged that the long-promised Bill to free councils from the rules that prevent them from spending their own cash is a key measure in the Labour programme.

Downing Street disclosed that the Bill to allow local authorities to have the proceeds from the sale of council houses, which have built up over the years, will be one of the first to be published after tomorrow's opening of Parliament. The money is to be released in phases for the biggest public housebuilding programme since the 1960s, and it will be aimed at helping single homeless people.

Jailed jurors are cleared on appeal

Two jurors jailed for contempt for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared by the Appeal Court, which criticised the trial judge. Lord Justice Rose said Judge Cooray should not have presided at the contempt case particularly because of the bias he had shown earlier. Page 3

Ulster peace bid by South Africa

The South African Government has invited the political parties involved in Northern Ireland, including Sinn Fein, to attend a conference on conflict resolution at the end of this month. The move was welcomed by the British and Irish Governments. Page 2

GrandMet and Guinness blend

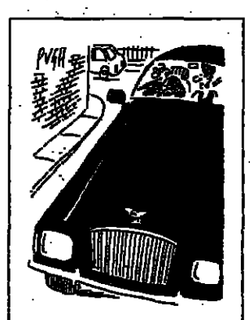
BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

GUINNESS and Grand Metropolitan, Britain's two leading drinks companies, announced yesterday that they are merging to create the largest wine and spirits business in the world.

The £24 billion merger plan, the biggest between two British companies, will bring brands such as Smirnoff vodka, Johnnie Walker whisky, Gordon's Gin, Guinness and Burger King under the control of one company.

The merged business, which will be known as GMG Brands, will operate in 200 countries.

The companies said yesterday that they had no immediate intention of selling off any of their businesses but the City expects that lesser brands such as Dewar whisky may be put up for sale. The merger is likely to result in around 2,000 job losses worldwide.



"Guinness was good for me"

Biggest merger, page 27
Pennington, page 29

Gatwick jet alert as door handle began to spin

BY DAREH GREGORIAN

A BRITISH Airways Boeing 747 carrying more than 300 passengers had to return to Gatwick after the crew feared a door was going to fly open in mid-air, it was disclosed yesterday.

The problem began immediately after take-off when the door handle started to spin open, a report by the Air Accident Investigation Branch says. Two cabin crew of the Nairobi-bound plane gripped hold of the handle to force it back into the closed position as air was whistling from the top and bottom of the door and the plane climbed to 21,000ft.

The crew then secured the door using looped-together seat belts. When the crew called Gatwick for advice, engineers said: "Let go of the handle to see where it stops."

The crew disregarded the advice because they feared "not only for the integrity of the door but for the pressurisation of the aircraft" and the pilot headed back to the airport.

Spokesmen for Boeing, British Airways and the Civil Aviation Authority said there were security precautions would have made it nearly impossible for the door to come open during the flight. The report said the chances of door flying open were "close to zero" and that "regardless of the handle position" the airflow forces "would not cause the door to fully open". An airline spokesman said last night: "We have put measures in place to make sure a similar thing does not happen again."

☐ About 249 BA passengers who were evacuated from an aircraft in Puerto Rico when one of the engines caught fire were scheduled to fly to London on a replacement jet last night. About a dozen passengers were slightly hurt in the incident on Sunday.

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Brussels clears Brown plan to cut VAT on fuel

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

GORDON BROWN won clearance from Brussels yesterday for the Government's plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel and he quashed speculation in Europe that it could take Britain back into the exchange-rate mechanism.

Mr Brown used his first foray in to the heart of the European Union as Chancellor for a display of resolve that *impressed finance ministers* but also made clear to them that the new Government was steering the same course as its Conservative predecessor on monetary union.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, was also given a warm welcome in Brussels. After meeting Franz Fischler, the Farm Commissioner, Dr Cunningham promised a break with the antagonistic approach over "mad cow" disease and fishing but he acknowledged that there was no early prospect of an end to the EU ban on exports of British beef. The Conservative government's promise to have had the beef ban lifted by last autumn "simply beggars belief", said Dr Cunningham.

Mario Monti, the Commissioner for Taxation, backed away from confrontation over the fuel tax after Mr Brown told him the Government had a "watertight" legal case for keeping its promise to cut VAT on domestic heating fuel from 8 to 5 per cent. Last week, the Commission said that Labour's plan appeared to contradict the EU goal of harmonising VAT at 15 per cent. Mr Monti said yesterday that the plan "may not be in the spirit of Community legislation", but added: "I do not see any particular legal obstacle."

The Commission's retreat was in the spirit of the honeymoon in relations between Brussels and the new British Government, and the goodwill was palpable at the monthly finance council, where ministers showered compliments on Mr Brown's grasp of Euro-economic complexities. "He has a perfect knowledge of the dossier ... he was crystal-clear," said Jean Arthuis, the French Finance Minister, after Mr Brown spoke up to insist that the EU run its budget next year as strictly as Britain controls its own.

However, Mr Brown found himself at odds with Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, over the ERM and plans for monetary union. The Chancellor dismissed speculation that Britain could be planning to rejoin the ERM. He insisted that membership was not a pre-condition for joining the single currency. According to the Maastricht treaty, two years of ERM membership is required as a membership condition but the point has been disputed since Britain and Italy left in 1992.

Herr Waigel insisted that Germany was sticking to the rule. Britain's non-membership of the ERM would be a "problem" if it decided that it wanted to join monetary union at its launch in January 1999, he said. Gerrit Zalm, the Dutch Finance Minister, whose government holds the EU presidency, said that this was open to dispute.

Setting out Britain's objectives, Mr Brown said that it was too early to say whether the Government would deem monetary union to have met the "British economic test", and thus whether Britain could join. The euro would have to be good for employment, investment and financial services. Britain would also insist on full compliance with the Maastricht criteria.

Letters, page 19

MPs to lose their honour in name of informality

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE antiquated practice of addressing MPs in the Commons as "My Right Honourable friend" or even "My Right Honourable and gallant friend" is under threat after government moves to modernise parliamentary procedures.

Traditions such as the need to wear a hat if MPs want to raise a point of order when a vote is being held, or the custom of crying "I spy strangers" when MPs want journalists to leave the press gallery, may also be abolished. Whips may no longer be able to physically force MPs into the correct division lobby to vote, and backbenchers may be able to vote by pressing a button on a portable computer.

The Government wants to streamline procedures to speed up legislation and to remove old fashioned practices that have little purpose, make MPs look ridiculous and the Commons farcical. But government sources are aware that being overzealous in stamping out "quaint" practices could make the Commons extremely tedious. "We are trying to modernise the Commons without making it dull," a Whitehall official said.

The first step was to change Prime Ministers' questions to a half an hour session on Wednesday's. But next week the Government will set up an all-party select committee to review a range of parliamentary procedures, including how people should be addressed and how they should vote.

Last week Tony Blair agreed that his Cabinet should address each other on first-name terms. Now he is considering extending the same informality to the chamber.

The committee is also expected to look at the need to avoid time-consuming amendments to legislation by publishing draft laws which can be considered before debate.

The Commons timetable is also expected to change. Business managers think the summer recess is too long and MPs should be allowed a week off at some other time.

Leading article, page 19

CHRIS HARRIS



Ann Widdecombe at Westminster yesterday: she denied that her statement on Mr Howard was driven by pique

Widdecombe to go ahead with Commons attack on Howard

ANDREW PIERCE

ANN WIDDECOMBE has appealed to the Speaker to allow her to make a personal statement criticising the Tory party leadership contender Michael Howard on the floor of the Commons. She ignored a plea from Peter Lilley, who she is supporting in the leadership contest, to stay silent.

A personal statement, which would revive memories of Sir Geoffrey Howe's personal statement in November 1990 which triggered the downfall of Margaret Thatcher, could damage Mr Howard badly. Aides of the former Home Secretary spent yesterday fighting to stop the threatened disclosures from his former deputy, about his dismissal of Derek Lewis the director-general of the prison service, from engulfing his campaign.

Charles Wardle, another former ministerial colleague, confirmed yesterday that he was seeking to raise in the Commons a report by the Department of Trade and Industry into the takeover of the House of Fraser by Mohamed Al Fayed. A debate before the leadership contest could cause further harm for Mr Howard. Miss Widdecombe last night denied that she was motivated by personal pique. "I have psyched myself up to do this for 18 months. I have agonised over it. Of course it is not pique," she said.

It emerged yesterday that Mr Lilley had asked Miss Widdecombe not to wage a public campaign against Mr Howard. Mr Lilley's supporters fear it could trigger a backlash against them. But Miss Widdecombe said: "I reached my decision to speak out before Peter Lilley put himself forward. It is nothing to do with him."

As the bookmakers continued to make William Hague the favourite, friends of Stephen Dorrell toughened up their rhetoric against the young pretender. They portrayed the 46-year-old former Health Secretary as the family candidate. By contrast they pointed to the inexperience of William Hague, 36.

Asked the biggest difference between the two contenders, a friend said that Mr Dorrell, who has three children, had more ministerial and business experience. He added: "He is ten years older. He has a family. That makes him a more rounded individual than William. William has a great future under whoever leads the party." Mr Dorrell also hopes to pick up support from Mr Howard in the fallout from the intervention of Miss Widdecombe who could speak for up to ten minutes without interruption in a packed chamber.

She decided a personal statement was the most effective means of communicating her grave doubts about Mr Howard's handling of a number of issues such as the dismissal of Mr Lewis. "It could finish Michael Howard," one Tory MP said last night.

Friends of Miss Widdecombe said that she feared a letter to John Major, which was her original plan, would not be so succinct. A speech in Commons would enjoy legal immunity. A letter to the party leader would not.

Mr Howard's supporters said he was relaxed about the attacks. "They realise Michael is a very strong candidate who needs to be stopped. People recognise that he is at the front of the pack," one supporter said.

Mr Howard sought yesterday to cast himself as the successor to the Thatcher legacy. In an article for an Internet news service he rejected the depiction of Thatcherism as a selfish ideology.

Protesters celebrate demise of road plan

Anti-roads protestors were claiming victory last night after a council decided to scrap a road-widening scheme because of a lack of government funding. Protesters emerged from their tunnels and climbed down from treehouses to celebrate at Stringers Common in Surrey.

There was a carnival atmosphere at the woodland site on the A320 between Guildford and Woking when the 50 green protesters learnt that Surrey County Council had abandoned the ten-year project, which has cost tens of thousands of pounds.

Vouchers to go

The Welsh Office said that nursery vouchers would be scrapped for state schools in Wales from September and for private nurseries after next spring term. The money from state school vouchers will go directly to local authorities, the Welsh Office is to consult over its plans for private nurseries. An announcement about the phasing out of vouchers in England is expected in June.

Marksmen miss

More than half the shots fired by police marksmen at armed suspects miss, according to a confidential Home Office report. Many officers failed to hit their targets even when they were less than ten metres away. In one case the suspect escaped unscathed and has never been found. The Home Office is now urging chief constables to modernise their firearms training.

Lightning death

A man died and his girlfriend was badly burnt after they were struck by lightning while walking along a cliff top at Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire coast. Stuart Ibbetson, 22, from Leeds was killed instantly. Julia Wright, 24, also from Leeds, managed to reach a car park to raise the alarm. She was treated for burns in hospital, where she was said to be "comfortable".

Soccer defence

The world football authority Fifa and a travelling Scotland fan were given until June 13 to clarify their positions in a case over Scotland's aborted match in Estonia last October. Gerald Brady, 41, from Glasgow, is claiming £750 at Paisley Sheriff Court, saying that Fifa had a duty to ensure Estonia that turned up. Fifa, based in Switzerland, says that the Scottish court has no jurisdiction.

Silence test case

A couple are lodging with the European Commission of Human Rights the first legal challenge to Britain's laws curbing a suspect's right to silence. William and Karen Condron, convicted of dealing in heroin by Kingston upon Thames Crown Court in November 1995, declined to answer questions. The judge said the jury was entitled to draw adverse inferences.

Nepalese can stay

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has decided to accept a recommendation by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal that Jayaram Khadka, 20, who was adopted seven years ago by Richard Morley, a businessman who lives at Clearwell Castle in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, should not be deported to Nepal, the Home Office said last night.

Mandela invites Sinn Fein to join conflict talks for Ulster parties

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

NELSON MANDELA's government has invited Ulster political parties, including Sinn Fein, to a conference on resolving conflict. The British and Irish governments have welcomed the initiative, though they will leave attendance to party leaders rather than government officials.

The South African Government, with the approval of President Mandela, will hold a four-day conference in a remote part of the Western Cape at the end of the month. The South Africans hope that the distance from Ulster will create a relaxed environment where the opposing factions will feel more at liberty to discuss the Northern Irish problem.

The Ministry for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development extended invitations to the Ulster Unionist Party, the SDLP, the Democratic Unionist Party, Sinn Fein and the Alliance Party. The meeting was intended to have been held in secret.

The SDLP and the Alliance Party yesterday indicated that they would send a delegation, although unsure if the party leaders, John Hume and Lord Alderdice, would attend. The Ulster Unionist Party said it would decide when they knew whether Sinn Fein was going. Sinn Fein has not commented.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the DUP, told RTE radio: "There will be no discussions as far as I am concerned in South Africa or anywhere else, and we will not have any part or lot in that." But his son, Ian, and other party members will attend in a personal capacity.

Mr Paisley senior said that he would attend only if his delegation were separated from Sinn Fein members, as during the 1995 Washington conference on American investment in Northern Ireland. South African embassy sources said it would be difficult to separate the parties as the conference will be held in one venue in Arniston, a remote town on the government-owned De Hoop reserve.



Paisley: refused to rub shoulders with Sinn Fein

One source close to the conference organisation said: "The idea is to fly people out there and let them listen to what the South Africans have to say about their peace process. There will be no hands-on mediation by the South Africans but they will be keen to do whatever they can to get the parties together. It will be up to the Northern Irish parties to take it further."

The conference, which begins on May 29, is the idea of Padraig O'Malley, an Irish-American academic based at the Centre for Democracy and Development at the Massachusetts University, Boston. He has written books on the Northern Irish conflict.

The South Africans held an introductory meeting on conflict resolution for the parties in Northern Ireland two years ago. Sinn Fein did not attend on that occasion.

Security alert over Cabinet list mislaid at rail station

BY STEWART TENDLER AND JAMES LANDALE

POLICE and Labour Party officials were yesterday investigating the discovery of a list of private telephone numbers for the Prime Minister and most of the Cabinet in a London railway station.

A sheet of paper headed "Private and Confidential" was found by an unemployed man at Euston after he went into the concourse to telephone a friend. It was in a brown envelope, beneath an Irish newspaper left on a public telephone.

The A4 sheet listed home numbers for Tony Blair, 15 of his Cabinet colleagues and three junior ministers. The list was incomplete and did not include the numbers of six Cabinet ministers. Above the numbers were the words: "Update following nos. ASAP & return to file immediately. DO NOT REMOVE FROM OFFICE." There was no indication last night of the source but the numbers appeared to be genuine, although some were out of date.

Downing Street officials and Labour spokesmen refused to comment on the discovery or to say whether the numbers would be be changed. One said: "We do not discuss security matters."

The apparent security breach is the first to hit the new Labour administration and will impress upon many new ministers the difference between opposition and Government. Several are getting used to police protection for the first time.

While in opposition, Labour MPs and shadow ministers were quite open with their contact numbers, especially with the media. Most were available through the party's Press Directory. However, some of the home numbers on the list — including Mr Blair's Islington home — are kept secret.

The list was found by Jim Taylor, 33, from Tottenham, north London. He first contacted a news agency reporter with whom he was acquainted. After allowing the agency to take a copy of the list he handed the document to British Transport Police at Euston. They passed it on to Labour Party headquarters.

Mr Taylor said: "I realised the newspaper it had been under was an Irish one with a green logo. I kept thinking that some terrorist had left it there by mistake and was probably looking around the phone for it. I had visions of what he would do to me if he caught up with me. I felt absolutely terrified."

Police are understood to be studying closed-circuit TV footage of the station.

ORGANISED...

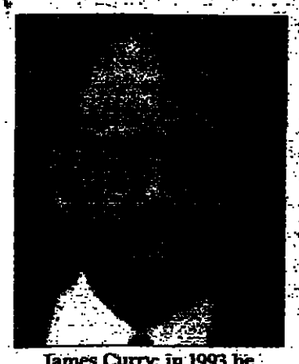
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UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES

DD YOUR DOUGH

Bank's 'token black' was fired after complaining



James Curry: in 1993 he had a salary of £800,000

BY LIN JENKINS

A HIGH-EARNING merchant banker wept yesterday as he said that he was hired — and then fired — for being black. James Curry, a Harvard graduate, said he was a "token black face" but was dismissed after complaining of racism.

Mr Curry, 43, an American, told an industrial tribunal that all had gone well at first when he joined Goldman Sachs as a services salesman from another bank in 1990. His first-year salary of £240,000 rise to about £660,000 in 1992 and £800,000 in 1993.

The following year it slumped to £270,000. He complained and was awarded a further £65,000 but was sacked in January last year for alleged "deteriorating performance" after complaining to partners about racism.

Mr Curry, of Cricklewood, north London, is claiming unfair dismissal and racial discrimination at Stratford, east London. He said that he had received some glowing reports — including one describing him as "a clean player of the absolutely highest calibre" — but that his manager Bruce Young made racial comments to him.

One one occasion he was told that a colleague would be more suitable for certain work because "he talks and looks more like the people who would be coming from those areas". Mr Curry said: "I remember those words as they were so offensive. I didn't know what the comment meant, but it said I would not be able to cover the account as I didn't talk like the customers. When he said I didn't look like the customers. I was in shock."

He said he thought his colour had nothing to do with business: "I thought he was crazy for actually saying that to my face." When he asked about taking over another position in London, Mr Young allegedly told him they that would rather have "a UK man".

Mr Curry says that he was employed by Goldman Sachs as a token black, and that Mr Young told him that he was not "paid to produce". He said: "There is a concern in American financial institutions to be seen to be employing black people. At that time his meaning was clear. I was being paid, he suggested, for being black."

In 1994, he was moved to another desk, under a female maanger. Mr Curry said she suggested a task that would be a "great opportunity for me to dispel the notion that I was lazy".

This comment, he said, had racial overtones: "Being called lazy by someone who kept accounts away from me had all the elements of someone tying my hands behind my back and then blaming me for not being able to use them. I felt like a rat trapped in a box."

After working on a complicated account for two months, which resulted in a £230 million transaction for the company, he was given about £460,000 commission, only 17 per of that to which he was entitled, he said. It is alleged that when he gained lucrative accounts for the company, he would be moved off them.

Monica Carss-Frisk, for Mr Curry, told the tribunal: "Goldman Sachs is a very large international financial institution which is unique in one aspect — equity partnership.

"That means that the rewards that one can get are also unique. Mr Curry says that he has lost the opportunity of partnership because of racial discrimination.

"We say that he was discriminated against because of his racial origins. There was a continuing practice of denying him access to promotion, denying him opportunities to manage particular important customer accounts in circumstances where the customers had asked that he do so, and disproportionately reducing his remuneration."

Since leaving the firm, he has worked for Merrill Lynch as joint head of the UK desk, on a starting salary of about £560,000.

The hearing continues and is expected to last ten days.

Judge 'fell into a sequence of errors' after women failed to pronounce verdict

Jurors jailed for contempt are cleared on appeal

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

TWO women jurors jailed for contempt of court for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared yesterday by the Court of Appeal, which criticised the trial judge for a succession of serious errors.

Lord Justice Rose said that Judge Cooray, who jailed Bonnie Schot, 20, the jury foreman, and Carol Barclay, 32, for 30 days at Knightsbridge Crown Court had "fallen into a sequence of errors".

The appeal court quashed the contempt of court convictions which caused an uproar in March when the two women were jailed. They were freed on bail, pending appeal, after spending 24 hours in Holloway prison.

Lord Justice Rose said Judge Cooray should not have presided at the contempt case particularly because of the bias and anger he had shown at an earlier hearing. He should have handed the case to another Crown Court judge or referred the matter to the Attorney-General.

Lord Justice Rose said that the jury was the "cornerstone of democracy" even if jury service could sometimes be irksome and require unpalatable decisions. He said that Judge Cooray himself had breached the Contempt of Court Act 1981 and a long established principle by inquiring into what had happened in the secrecy of the jury room.

The two women were the first jurors believed to have been sent to prison for failing to reach a verdict since the 17th century. The jailing happened after the jury had retired to consider its verdicts against five defendants at the end of a counterfeit currency case.

The jury sent a note to Judge Cooray in which they said: "Your Honour, we are unable to come to any decisions owing to some jurors' conscious beliefs. Please advise." The judge asked them to return to court where he asked the foreman to explain the note. In a second note he was told that some members could not bring themselves to make a "true judgment due to our beliefs, not religious but personal.

"At the beginning of the trial before we took the oath we felt that we could not stand up in court and stress this fact. We thought that our feelings may change over time. After retiring we have found that we still feel the same and cannot give a true verdict to these defendants."

The judge then demanded to know the names of the jurors who could not reach a verdict, discharged the jury and ordered a retrial, saying that the two women should return to court to face a contempt hearing. After they were released on bail Judge Cooray stood by his decision saying that jurors had to recognise their responsibilities to the criminal justice system.



Schot: starting a law course at university

Lord Justice Rose said it was doubtful that the judge should have sought written clarification of the initial note handed to him by the jury. He certainly ought not to have asked for the names of the jurors concerned. And he should not have stopped the trial without hearing submissions from counsel. He could have discharged only the two jurors concerned.

The women said after the hearing yesterday that they were afraid Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Keene, would uphold their convictions and send them back to prison.

Miss Barclay, a nursery nurse from Shepherds Bush, west London, who claimed she had felt unable to judge other people, said after the hearing: "I was wrongly charged, wrongly tried and wrongly sentenced. Especially serious was the judge's locking me up without any warning which the Court of Appeal said was without any legal principle."

Miss Schot, from Clapham, south London, who is to study law at Guildhall University in October, said: "I am extremely relieved the matter has come to an end and I can set myself the task now of just continuing my studies.

"The Court of Appeal has pointed out the many errors made by the judge. It was always my intention to try the case according to the evidence. I set myself that task but I found it very difficult."

Earlier John Perry, QC, for Miss Schot, said that the trial judge had been guilty of "piercing the veil of the secrecy of the jury room" which should never be lifted.

Stephen Solley, QC, for Miss Barclay, told the court that "from a minor, almost routine episode, a series of errors have laid layer upon layer of an unnecessary difficulty culminating in this hearing". He said that the case sent shock waves to potential jurors who might fear imprisonment if they had not declared in advance any personal concerns and personal conscience to the court. The judicial system was on a "slippery slope" in which overbearing jurors might use the threat of exposure against a weak or silent juror as a weapon to secure agreement.

Juries had the right not to agree and not to convict regardless of the state of evidence. He said that if the contempt were upheld it would amount to a first step towards the interrogation of jurors "US style".

In its judgment the Court of Appeal said: "We sympathise with the judge in having to deal with a very unusual situation." But he had fallen into a "sequence of errors". Jury service could involve difficult challenges to the mind and emotions, but without it "civilised society as we know it would not survive".

Judge Cooray will automatically be sent a copy of the criticisms of the Appeal Court but will not be given an opportunity to reply to it.

A spokeswoman for the Lord Chancellor's department said there was no structure in place for Judge Cooray to discuss the remarks.

TONY WHITE



Carole Barkley and her mother, Lola, leaving the High Court after their appeal victory yesterday

Bus driver 'swore at cyclist then ran over him'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A LONDON bus driver shouted abuse at a cyclist who had overtaken him before running him down and killing him, a jury was told yesterday.

David Stokes, QC, a Crown Court recorder who was a passenger on the bus, told Knightsbridge Crown Court that he heard Walton Christie, the bus driver, swear at the cyclist moments before he was knocked down. He then heard the cyclist and his bicycle go under the wheels of the double-decker bus.

Anthony Leonard, for the prosecution, said that Russell Waldron, 35, a graphic designer from Forest Hill, southeast London, had overtaken Mr Christie, 54. The bus driver drew up behind Mr Waldron to "intimidate him".

Mr Leonard said during the evening rush-hour on May 7 last year Christie was driving a 171a double-decker over Waterloo Bridge towards the railway terminus. "As he was about to pass the National Theatre he saw a bicyle in front of him ridden by Russell Waldron, who was an experienced cyclist. Some passengers heard the defendant say something to the effect of 'bloody wanker' directed towards the cyclist." He said the bus collided with the rear wheel of the bicycle. "That caused Mr Waldron to topple from his bike into the path of the bus." Mr Waldron and his bike then went under the bus.

Mr Waldron had overtaken the bus and then took his hands off the handlebar for a time. It was then, Mr Leonard said, that the driver uttered abuse but decided not to brake, even though the distance between bicycle and bus was narrowing.

"He was deliberately getting closer in order to intimidate the cyclist who had overtaken him on the outside and was now on his way in front of the bus," he said.

After the collision Mr Christie radioed for an ambulance but it was too late to save Mr Waldron.

Mr Christie told police that he had applied the brakes when Mr Waldron overtook him. He said the cyclist had moved to the side of the bus before he heard a "crunch" as he went under the rear wheels. In police interviews he denied he had tried to intimidate Mr Waldron by moving closer to him.

Mr Stokes, from Putney, west London, said he was sitting directly behind the driver. "I saw the cyclist, he was in the middle of the road. Just before the impact the bus broke but not before that time. The cyclist went under the wheels of the bus, both wheels, because you could feel both sets of wheels going over him."

Mr Christie, from Enfield, denies causing death by dangerous driving. The trial continues.

For sale: 77 Bronze Age boulders; magical atmosphere

PRIVATE buyers and museums were yesterday invited to bid for the Rollright Stones, which are believed to date from the Bronze Age.

The stones sit on one of the highest points of the Cotswolds. Their owner, Pauline Flick, said: "I have put them on the open market to see what they will fetch. They are as beautiful as any historical monument in Britain."

Mrs Flick inherited the stones from her father, who bought them in 1929, the last time they came on the market. She has always refused to put up a signpost because she does not want to attract coachloads of tourists. She hopes that the 77 unhewn boulders near Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire will fetch up to £55,000, but says they are priceless.

English Heritage was last night considering whether to make a bid, although experts said Mrs Flick was asking too much for the stones, known as the King's Men. Local mythology has it that a witch tempted an ambitious king to take seven steps to prove himself as king and that, as he advanced towards her, she turned him to stone. A similar fate is said to have befallen his circle of soldiers and five treacherous knights.

A spokesman for English Heritage said: "Whoever buys them cannot touch the stones. They are also obliged to adequately care for the stones which are not in the most accessible spot for tourists.

"We are in discussion with Mrs Flick and hope we can come to an agreement to protect what is a marvellous monument, if not quite Stonehenge Mark II."

Last night Mrs Flick said: "I have been looking after them for 27 years — I think that is long enough. I have other things to get on with. My father bought them as part of the Rollright estate. The estate was sold during the war but he kept the stones. I want to hand them over to someone who will look after them but not commercialise them."

Mrs Flick, who lives in the nearby village of Little Rollright, has been charging 30p for adults and 20p for children to enter the beauty spot, where plays are staged and weddings held during the summer. The proceeds go to charity. Stonehenge charges £3.70 for adults.

Martin Palmer, director of the Sacred Land Project, said that the Rollright site was "among the top ten of standing-stone sites".

Mrs Flick's agent, Martin Elliott, expects museums, castles and English Heritage — which provides a management grant to the site — to bid for the stones. He said that the sale should be finalised by August.

English Heritage said: "It's not the sort of site you can charge a lot to enter but it should be preserved. Like Stonehenge, the experts have no idea why it was built. This is part of the magic and the mystery as to why they were put up."

It is recorded in Anglo-Saxon chronicles as Hrolla Landriht — the land of the Saxon farmer Hrolla. In 1180, Rollright, was listed with Stonehenge as among 36 "Marvels of Britain".

The 16th-century antiquarian Camden claimed that the Rollright Circle had been constructed by Rollo the Dane. John Aubrey, a 17th-century antiquarian, concluded that Rollright was a Druid Temple. Aubrey's friend Ralph Sheldon carried out the only recorded excavation of the site, but uncovered nothing.

Archaeologists are convinced that the Rollright Stones and other circles are considerably older than the Druids and a Bronze Age date of between 1500 and 2000 BC is more likely.

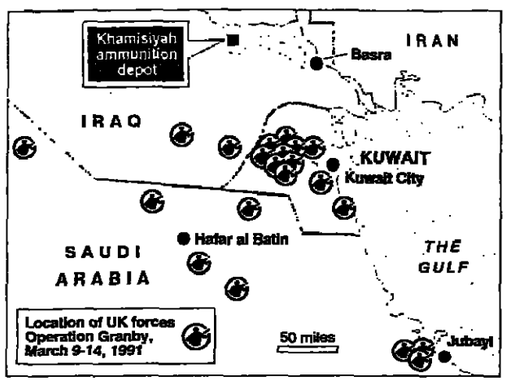
Local legend claims that it is impossible to count the stones because you can never tell which one you started with.

Mr Elliott accepts that, even by the standards of estate agents' hyperbole, the sale of the Rollright Stones will take some beating.

Photograph, page 26



Ex-soldiers insist military chiefs lied over Gulf War chemical blitz





Archie Turnbull, pictured above during the Gulf War, says 33 pieces of equipment detected one chemical attack. Other veterans who have reported similiar incidents include, below, Larry Perry and Paul Grant





BY STEPHEN FARRELL

GULF WAR veterans have renewed claims that they were exposed to sarin, mustard gas and other nerve agents. They accuse the Defence Ministry and the Pentagon of covering up a chemical attack by President Saddam Hussein on Allied forces at Al-Jubayl, on the Saudi coast, shortly before the start of the air war.

Former British and American soldiers claim in a Channel 4 *Dispatches* programme to be screened this week that many of the 750,000 troops were exposed to low levels of nerve agents created by fallout clouds when Allied bombers destroyed Iraqi chemical weapon dumps.

Several veterans say that chemical-weapon detectors sounded the alarm after two explosions in the air at Al Jubayl on January 19, 1991. Troops were ordered into protective suits. They later reported a fine mist descending on bunkers that caused burning skin, mucus in throats and

THE VETERANS

tingling in the arms and fingers, all symptoms of exposure to nerve agents.

They were told the alarms had been triggered by sonic booms and fuel jettisoned from aircraft on bombing missions into Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, and that they should ignore them.

Paul Grant, 50, a former company sergeant major in charge of a Royal Army Ordnance Corps team of specialists at Al Jubayl, said: "All the alarms in the whole camp went off. Then the sirens started and then the American verbal announcement — they had loudspeakers on big poles all over the place — almost in a panic, this guy was saying words to the effect of 'This is the real thing. Take cover, take cover.' "

Mr Grant dismissed MoD explanations that the alerts were caused by malfunctions. "We knew the equipment was not faulty, we knew that it was tested to extreme measures, and we had every faith and confidence in it. I am so confident that the explanation given was so definitely a cover-up, that I'd be prepared to stand on a stack of Bibles in St Paul's and swear that."

The three main types of chemical weapon detectors used by British forces in the Gulf War were the ground-based Naiad, the hand-held Cam and the Residual Vapour Detector Kit.

The Naiad — Nerve Agent Immobilised Enzyme Alarm and Detector — monitors the atmosphere and gives audible or visual warnings of nerve agents in vapour or aerosol forms. The military manual Jane's says the sytem has a low false-alarm rate.

Cam — Chemical Agent Monitor — is a 1.5kg hand-held kit used by the United Nations to confirm the use of mustard gas in the 1980s Iran-Iraq war. The tests were verified by independent laboratories and Cam is used by 28 countries.

The Residual Vapour Detector Kit is issued to squad leaders to detect mustard gas or nerve agents after an attack. A small hand pump draws air over a chemical-sensitive disc.

Richard Turnbull, 45, a former senior electrician with an RAF nuclear, biological and chemical warfare cell, told *Dispatches* that Naiads sounded the alarm at Dhahran, near Al Jubayl, in January 1991. His unit confirmed the findings with Cams and residual vapour kits. "We had 33 pieces of equipment, three different types, all told us the same thing," said Mr Turnbull. He suffers from emphysema, asthma, angina and chronic fatigue.

The Defence Ministry denied the claims yesterday. A spokeswoman for the Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Unit said: "We still do not believe that chemical agents were used in the area of battle at all. Naiad and Cam detectors did go off at various times but they were followed up at the time and were judged to be false alarms. That is still our position."

Minister promises fresh start in effort to uncover the truth

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

JOHN REID, the Armed Forces Minister, has stepped in quickly to reinforce the Government's determination to solve the mystery of the Gulf War illnesses affecting more than 1,200 veterans of the 1991 conflict.

However, the language he used in a series of interviews yesterday underlined the difficult challenge the Labour Government has inherited from the Conservatives. He could not promise immediate compensation, he admitted that the research would take several years and he confirmed that there was no evidence to suggest that a unique illness existed, although some veterans were clearly ill.

Dr Reid's approach, however, was to inject the idea of a "fresh start" and to promise that resources would be found to pay for whatever research was needed. He said the attitude of the previous Government had been "deplorable" but underlined his support for the £1.32 million epidemiological study announced in December last year by Nicholas Soames, then Armed Forces Minister. That alone would reveal whether there was an excess of ill health among Gulf veterans, Dr Reid's aides said.

His main initiative, the promise of additional research into the possible damaging combination of multiple vaccines and anti-nerve gas tablets to counter Iraqi chemical and biological warfare, will be an internal MoD project.

At the behest of the MoD, the Medical Research Council is supervising the other research programmes, and one official at the council cast doubt yesterday on the scientific value of Dr Reid's new research proposal.

The official said that even if it could be shown that some soldiers suffered side-effects from the combination of drugs, that would not be scientifically conclusive and could be "a waste of money".

The Medical Research Council received more than 30 proposals for research into Gulf War illnesses, some of

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

which, it is understood, would have focused on the combination of drugs received by the veterans. However, the council recommended only two projects: a study of ill health among veterans by Nicola Cherry of Manchester University, and a study of the reproductive health of Gulf War veterans and the health of their children by Patrician Doyle at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Another epidemiological study, funded by the United States Defence Department, is being carried out by King's College London.

Dr Reid said yesterday: "We cannot promise instant or indeed definitive solutions to this difficult problem, but we wanted to make it clear at an early stage that this issue is a priority for the new Government." He has told the MoD that he wants a full explanation of the scientific basis on which chemical and biological counter-measures were used in the Gulf, and the way the vaccination programme was handled in the field.

He said he was appalled that more than 300 Gulf War veterans were still waiting to be examined under the ministry's medical assessment programme. "We will accelerate the assessment programme."

Darren Lauder, of the Gulf War Veterans Association, a 28-year-old former Royal Engineer who served in the Gulf, said: "We can't raise too many hopes with this new initiative, although it's a step in the right direction. The trouble is this research takes such a long time: what we want is to get the proper medical treatment and to go back to leading normal lives again."

Cover-up charges forced Clinton to take the lead

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

CHARGES of foot-dragging and cover-up have led to big changes in the American Government's approach to investigating "Gulf War syndrome" in recent months.

President Clinton took the lead by appointing an independent advisory committee, with wide powers, that reports directly to him. After its first report, he extended the committee's life to conduct further investigations throughout this year.

He has also prolonged the deadline for Gulf War veterans to claim disability until 2001. The limit had been two years after their service in the war zone. At least 5,000 veterans whose earlier claims were rejected have been encouraged to reapply.

Yet, despite the upsurge of activity, little evidence has been found to establish that exposure to chemical weapons or pollutants was the cause of the syndrome. If a single ailment contributed to the veterans' illnesses it was probably the stress of combat, the President's committee concluded.

However, the committee sharply criticised the Pentagon for failing adequately to examine potential links between the health of veterans and low-level exposure to poisonous gases. There are also continuing concerns about an experimental drug, pyridostigmine bromide, that was

THE PENTAGON

given to troops to counter the effects of nerve gas.

The Pentagon has belatedly admitted that American troops could have been exposed to chemical weapons when engineers blew up the Kamisiyah weapons dump in southern Iraq in March 1991. The CIA had warned of possible chemical weapons at the site but the information was apparently never passed on to units in the area.

The Pentagon had previously claimed that the army learnt that poisonous gases might have been at the site only after its destruction. The changed story confirmed the view of the American Legion and other veterans' groups of a widespread cover-up. So did the Pentagon's admission in February that 80 per cent of US military logs recording the detection of chemical weapons during the Gulf War had been lost.

The President's advisory committee on Gulf War illnesses was formed in May 1995 with an annual budget of $2.5 million (£1.54 million). Its full report was made public on January 7 this year when Mr Clinton extended the committee's life until at least next October.

The United States Department of Veterans' Affairs first became concerned about the health effects of the Gulf War environment while hostilities were still going on because of the smoke from oil fires and concerns about Iraq's capacity to wage chemical warfare.

GULF WAR SYNDROME

Gulf War syndrome will be one of the most controversial issues facing the Ministry of Defence and its new ministers for at least the next three years. Despite initial scepticism among senior officials and ministers at the MoD in the earliest stages of the investigation, the number of veterans suffering from illnesses increased and a pattern began to emerge which the Government could not easily dismiss.

TREATMENTS

Are the illnesses related? Is there a treatable syndrome?

Scientifically, these questions cannot be answered until it can be proved that those men and women who served in the Gulf War suffered a disproportionate level of illnesses, whether it be cancer, chronic fatigue or memory loss, when compared with their peers who did not go to the Gulf. An epidemiological study has been launched, under the supervision of the Medical Research Council, which will take three years.

The 1,200 veterans currently ill are suffering from a range of common complaints, such as joint pains, headaches, skin rashes, breathlessness, memory loss and chronic fatigue. Some acute cases can be linked to combat stress, including post-traumatic stress disorder, a clinical illness found among returning soldiers. But many who are ill did not take part in fighting.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Did Saddam Hussein launch a chemical or biological attack which has been covered up by the West?

In numerous statements, ministers have denied that there were any such attacks. The Americans warned the Iraqi leader before the campaign began in January 1991 that, if he resorted to chemical or biological warfare, the retaliation would be in kind and devastating. Intelligence evidence indicated that he was ready to launch chemical artillery shells and had stockpiled anthrax, plague and botulinum toxin.

None of the Scud missile attacks involved non-conventional warheads and, although there were some reports that chemical artillery shells were found in Iraqi trenches, all the evidence showed that Saddam took the American warning seriously.

The CIA belatedly admitted that American bombing of an Iraqi chemical weapons depot — Bunker 73 — at Khamisiyah, west of Basra, may have created a cloud of poisonous gases, affecting American soldiers in the area. However, the nearest British soldiers were judged to have been too far away to be affected.

VACCINES

Could the combination of vaccines and anti-nerve gas tablets given to soldiers to counter the threat of chemical and biological attack have created long-term ill effects?

Before he retired earlier this year, Vice-Admiral Tony Revell, the Surgeon-General, admitted that, if there was a single cause for the Gulf War illnesses, the mixture of vaccines and tablets could have been to blame. French soldiers were given some vaccines but not the anti-nerve tablets (Naps), and none of them is suffering from the same Gulf War illnesses as British and American soldiers.

This is an area where the MoD is on vulnerable ground, because Porton Down, the chemical defence establishment, had not carried out research into the possible effects of giving soldiers a combination of injections and tablets over a short period. Some soldiers said they were given nine inoculations in one day. Soldiers given anthrax injections also had pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine because research showed it enhanced the effectiveness of the anthrax vaccine. Thousands of American Gulf War veterans are also suffering from similar illnesses, but were not vaccinated against plague.

PESTICIDES

Could the spraying of organiophosphate pesticides be the cause of the illnesses?

This possibility arose as an official clue in the investigation only after ministers stopped being deceived by MoD officials and were informed that toxic pesticides had been used. Until then, the veterans had blamed everything from the vaccines to oil-well fires and chemical warfare.

Was the deception of ministers an MoD cover-up?

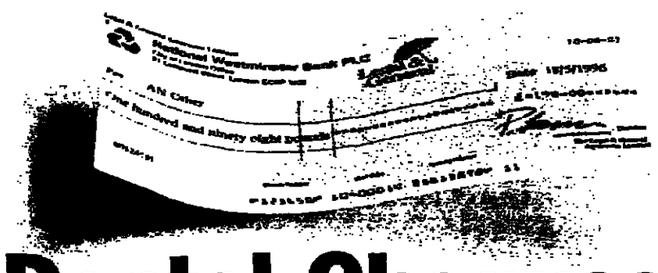
Incompetence seems more likely.

Can it be proved that the veterans now on the sick list suffered from one or other of the possible causes of the Gulf War illnesses?

Unfortunately, many vaccine records were lost in the war. And, in the early stages, some people who had not even been to the Gulf claimed to be suffering from Gulf War syndrome.

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Dalya Alberge reports from Cannes as a Scots veteran complains that TV clowns are just clones

Today's young comedians are a joke, says Connolly

BILLY CONNOLLY lamented poor standards among the latest generation of young comedians yesterday and blamed television for snapping up individuals and devoting entire series to them when they "have only been going a fortnight".

The Glaswegian comedian, aged 54, is at the Cannes Film Festival for the premiere of *Mrs Brown*, in which he plays Queen Victoria's comforting servant John Brown.

He said that television was "cloning" young comics, who sounded indistinguishable from one another. This was because the same pool of writers had to help them to pad out their television series when they had insufficient material of their own.

The former shipworker said that fledgling comics needed to experience life and tour the clubs of Inverness, Manchester and "the wee towns". They should learn the hard way why a show was brilliant in Bolton one night and failed miserably in Barnsley the next. Television could never give them that, he said.

Although he named Rik Mayall and Harry Hill as "real" comedians, he did not identify those who did not make him laugh.

He went on to say that "crude" swearing had become a problem among television comedians. Although he is frequently labelled foul-mouthed himself, Connolly uses swear words to punctuate observational humour. The younger comics, he said, were just crude: "I'm getting very bored with Tampax jokes. It used to be so avant-garde. The poetry's disappeared."

He noted, too, how "we're going backwards to double-acts with prepared pieces, comics who say: 'I'll say this and you say that' — improvisers who can't improvise". To stretch material over a series, such comics relied on writers: "And because the others do too, they each sound like everyone else."

Connolly has never used writers. He never puts down anything on paper — "the old stuff just falls off the end". As a natural comic with a sense of the ridiculous, he does not even rehearse.

Now, however, life as an actor beckons. His performance in John Madden's *Mrs Brown* is one of the festival talking-points. One critic suggested an Oscar nomination; another described his performance as "superlative".

He stars with Dame Judi Dench, who plays Queen Victoria, while he plays her low-born hunting guide and servant John Brown, a Scot with whose irreverence he immediately identified.

Despite the contrast in their social status, Brown became the Queen's confidant, the only character to whom she felt close and who brought her out of herself after the death of her beloved husband and mentor Prince Albert. It was a passionate but apparently platonic friendship that, in an age of social repression, scandalised the nation. In 1864, *The Times* attacked the Queen for her failure to take any part in public life.

Connolly said yesterday: "Brown's a huge hero in Scotland because everyone thinks he slept with the Queen. I don't think he did. It was much nicer and better than that. He respected royalty and never dreamt of crossing the line."

In the early 1860s, the Queen's popularity had so waned that there were calls in Parliament to abolish the Monarchy. Commenting on parallels with today, Connolly said: "I'm not for or against. They're kind of redundant. The trouble isn't the Queen or the royal family or who they marry. It's the pyramid underneath. Prince so-and-so and the Earl of such-and-such. Who are these toffs?"

Connolly always looks as if he is about to burst into hysterical laughter. Asked how he kept a straight face during filming, he said: "I didn't." They had endless fits of giggles, particularly over a horse with stomach problems: "Judi could hold on better than me. My face was straight, but my legs were laughing."

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Billy Connolly in Cannes: he plays John Brown in a film about Queen Victoria

Director defends necrophilia tale

THE woman director of a film about a female necrophiliac yesterday dismissed accusations that the subject matter was sick.

Lynne Stopkewich's *Kissed* is featured in the main festival, although the showbusiness journal *Variety* said: "Selling a film built around a woman lusting after a bunch of dead guys will present some unique challenges." Its reviewer said that the film was nevertheless "a poetic, provocative love story".

Asked whether she expected her debut feature to be as controversial as *Crash* — the film by fellow Canadian David Cronenberg about sexual stimulation derived from car crashes — she said: "I hope it is as controversial and popular as *Crash*. Being compared to Cronenberg is a wonderful compliment."

She said that if the main character had been a man rather than a woman, she would not have made the film: "It is about more than sexual choice. The film is about passion, obsession and relationships. It is difficult to put myself in the place of someone who has a problem with it."

Olympic gold diver stars in Aids film

AN OLYMPIC gold medallist who is HIV-positive is starring in a feature film about Aids. Greg Louganis, an American diver who disclosed that he had the virus after the 1988 Seoul Games, during which he hit his head on a diving board and bled into the pool, is appearing in *Touch Me*, "a 1990s love story" that is being shown at the festival. Two of the characters in the film die of Aids-related illnesses, mirroring the real loss of two of Louganis's close friends.

Louganis said: "It is a film about Aids that is very hopeful. It shows that HIV is not a death sentence. Most Aids stories are gloom and doom. This runs the gamut of emotions. It is a love story that focuses on a relationship that is not just about sex. It is one of the few stories about HIV and Aids that has a hopeful ending."

In the film, directed by H. Gordon Boo, who worked on *Godfather III* and *Platoon*, Louganis plays a man whose lover has Aids and is on his deathbed. He contacts a woman with whom that friend also had an affair when they were students. He urges her to have a test for HIV and she discovers that she has the virus.

Asked whether his own experience brought to the film, Louganis said: "I don't know if it makes it more poignant or not." But he emphasised that he was not cast "for my HIV status".

He felt the film had an educational message and expressed frustration that young people continued to ignore warnings about protecting themselves. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, he recalled, "we didn't know about safe sex. I thought I was safe as I was involved in a long-term relationship. I thought it was a monogamous relationship. Obviously it wasn't. But there is no blame. Not from me. It's not clear, though, if he gave it to me or whether it was my previous lover. Both have passed away from Aids-related illnesses."

Louganis, who has a degree in theatrical studies, no longer dives in competitions.

Novice earns a blessing from author of wayward monk's story



Waller: directed film on shoestring budget

A 22-YEAR-OLD British director straight from film school so impressed the writer Piers Paul Read with a screenplay based on one of his novels that Read allowed him to adapt it for the big screen.

Tom Waller's film, *Monk Dawson*, is being shown at the festival, where distributors in several countries have already snapped it up.

Waller, who wrote, directed and produced it on a shoestring, graduated in film editing from the Northern Film School in Leeds in 1995. Despite being unable to pay his actors more than £74 a day, he managed to cast Martin Kemp, who appeared in *The Krays*, about the London gangsters, and Paula Hamilton, the international model who has worked for several top-flight designers and who acted with Elizabeth Hurley in *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*.

Monk Dawson is inspired by Read's story of "a Benedictine monk's journey from godliness to worldliness". Read, a Roman Catholic, said yesterday: "Tom is going places. He's not only a talented film-maker, but he has enormous confidence and verve."

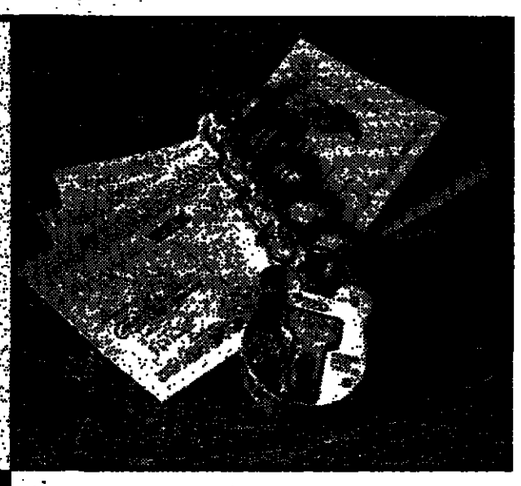
The film is being promoted at the festival by the New Producers Alliance, an organisation which represents rising film-makers. Hamilton, who flew into Cannes yesterday, plays a character with whom a disgraced former monk falls in love. Her agent, Derek Webster, who also represents Lord Attenborough and John Thaw, was so taken with the script that after reading it he urged her to return immediately from a Tuscan holiday.

She spoke yesterday of the character she plays as "someone who does not take responsibility for her actions and who has no idea of the consequences". That, Hamilton said, was just as she was during her addiction to drink and drugs. "I felt very close to her." However, she said, that period was very much in her past. "It is ten years since my last drug and six since my last drink." These days, she uses her experience to help a charity devoted to the families of addicts.

Although Waller said that his attempt to contact Read was eased by the fact that they were both educated at Ampleforth College, the Roman Catholic public school in Yorkshire, the author recalled how he was struck by the strength of the script: "He seemed to see the point of the story." If he has any criticism, it is that the book was followed too closely. However, Hamilton said that that was "the biggest compliment" Read could have paid. She mentioned that a former Catholic priest had approached her after a screening. "He came out in tears and said it really touched on the human soul."

Commenting on the final product, Read said: "It's a very good film, technically proficient with good performances. I hope he gets distributors. Paula is very good. She's fine for the role." Other film adaptations of his books include *Alive*, from his best-selling account of the 1972 Andes air crash in which survivors ate the bodies of those who died.

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Relatives believe family of British secret agent in Lebanon were killed because he 'knew too much'

Inquest fails to solve riddle of spy murders

By Russell Jenkins

THE murderer of the wife and three children of a British businessman who spied for the CIA in Lebanon may never be known after a coroner said yesterday that the matter was "for others to pursue".

The family of Ian Spiro, 46, who assisted Terry Waite before his kidnap and was one of Colonel Oliver North's agents, claim that he, his British wife Gail, 42, and three children Sara, 16, Adam, 14, and Deana, 11, were killed either by the CIA or assassins from the Middle East.

American police officers believe Mr Spiro shot his family dead at their rented home in San Diego before taking cyanide because his $5 million (£3 million) debts had made him mentally unbalanced.

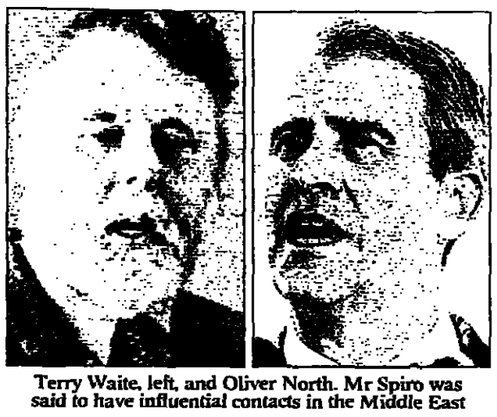
The inquest at Whitehaven in Cumbria yesterday was the first public examination of the deaths of Mrs Spiro and the children five years ago.

Mr Spiro's mother-in-law, Margery Brunskill, and his wife's half-brother, Kenneth Quarton, wrote to the coroner saying they belived Mr Spiro was silenced either by a CIA hitman or assassins sent by a Middle East faction because he knew too much. Mr Spiro had told them before his death that his life was in danger and that he had received disturbing telephone calls.

Eugene Douglas, who was US ambassador to Britain during the Reagan administration, told the inquest in written evidence that Mr Spiro was recruited by the CIA and possibly MI6 during the 1970s because of his extensive contacts among the Shia Muslim community in Lebanon. Mr Spiro's knowledge and friends in Beirut were thought to be useful at a time when the hostage crisis was deepening.

Shortly before his death, Mr Spiro telephoned Mr Douglas and told him that he had received a video of the interogation of the American hostage William Buckley by his captors. This he described as his insurance policy.

Mr Douglas later refused Mr Spiro's plea to talk to the head of the CIA when it refused to renew his contract. But after his death there was international concern that documents believed to be at his home could have "major implications in the Middle East", Mr Douglas said.



Terry Waite, left, and Oliver North. Mr Spiro was said to have influential contacts in the Middle East

Mr Spiro was known by his associates simply as John Smith but was often referred to as James Bond because of his clipped English accent.

Mr Spiro had a number of meetings with Mr Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, giving him introductions to leading members of the Shia Muslim community.

Mr Spiro's family claimed Mr Waite had endangered his life by revealing his work in the Lebanon to a BBC *Panorama* journalist. In a letter read to the court, Mr Waite said it never been his practice to reveal the names of those who assisted him in his hostage work and that he never spoke of Mr Spiro's contribution.

Mr Spiro and his family moved to a plush rented house in Sante Fe when his business as an international commodities broker was already collapsing. The bodies of Mrs Spiro and her children were found by family friends in their beds on November 5 1992. They had been shot twice each at close range with a .357 Smith & Wesson revolver which had been loaned to Mr Spiro by a lawyer friend, the sheriff's department found.

Blood on a bathrobe worn by Mr Spiro came from his youngest daughter Dina and his bloody fingerprint was found on the door to her room. "It is evident that Ian Spiro killed his family and then committed suicide. Case closed. Suspect deceased," the US police report concluded.

Mr Spiro"s body was found three days later. He had driven off in his white camper van for a remote beauty spot off Highway 22 in the Californian desert and had apparently taken sodium cyanide.

The inquest heard that hikers found a briefcase and suitcases containing two tapes hidden in a nearby rock. They contained the rambling thoughts of a man, suggested clinical psychologist Dr Daniel O'Roarty, who was clearly unbalanced. He had bought a ouija board in a last attempt to buy his way out of his financial problems by calling on dark forces to tell him the number of the Californian state lottery.

They concluded that Spiro killed his family when the banks, credit card companies and other debtors started pressing for repayment of debts totalling $5 million.

John Taylor, the coroner, recorded a formal verdict that Mrs Spiro and the children were unlawfully killed. But he refrained from recording a verdict about the dead man because his body was cremated in America, and therefore was not eligible for an inquest in this country.

None of the family were at the hearing. They are understood to be pursuing further investigations into the deaths.

MALCOLM CROFT



Mr Spiro with a woman believed to be his wife before she was found shot dead in their home in Santa Fe

Divorced father 'killed rival after CSA seized pay'

By Tim Jones

A DIVORCED father of four who was being pursued by the Child Support Agency murdered his former wife's new husband in a frenzied knife attack when nearly half his monthly wages were seized for maintenance arrears, a court was told yesterday.

Orlando Pownall, for the prosecution, said that John Reid had earlier rung the agency to say he would kill William Pigg, husband of his former wife, Patricia, if the deductions were made. Mr Reid, 54, had also written to the agency saying: "You are being used. This situation has the potential to have a very tragic outcome."

Mr Pownall said the dispute over payments for the upkeep of their youngest daughter, now aged 10, had ended in tragedy when Mr Reid had confronted Mr Pigg at his home in west London. A doorstep argument had ended with Mr Reid stabbing Mr Pigg, a council administrator, ten times with a kitchen knife, he told the Old Bailey.

He said Mr Reid, a Heathrow airport worker from Hampton, west London, had shouted "Die, you bastard, die" as he struck his victim.

After the Reids had divorced, his former wife contacted the Child Support Agency in 1993, seeking maintenance for their youngest daughter.

There had been "widespread and sustained criticism of the CSA", Mr Pownall said, but the agency's actions, "good, bad or indifferent" did not give Mr Reid an excuse for murder. "His response to the deduction-of-earnings order was wholly unreasonable. He had decided on revenge." Mr Reid, who denies murder, was not acting in self-defence when he attacked Mr Pigg, 30, a much younger and bigger man, the jury was told. "He was in a temper and in a frenzy."

Mr Reid had been earning £23,000 working for a courier firm when he became aware of the maintenance claim. But, Mr Pownall said, it was perhaps no coincidence that within a month of receiving the demand from the agency he gave up his job and became a part-time packer, earning just over £500 a month.

When he was almost £1,000 in arrears of maintenance, he had learnt that the CSA had deducted £206 from his wages. Mr Pownall said: "When he saw it, he told a colleague he did not believe what was happening to him and that the CSA were robbing him.

Patricia Reid became John Reid's second wife when they married in 1977 and had three children, a girl and two boys. Their youngest daughter, Stephanie, was born in the same year. Mr Pownall said: "It was not a happy marriage. He was very aggressive towards his wife."

The dead man, a former Terriorial Army soldier, could be forceful and had infuriated Mr Reid by having complaints against him upheld by the CSA ombudsman. Mr Reid, Mr Pownall said, had told an agency official he would kill Mr Pigg after being initially told that £13 a week would be deducted at source. He allegedly carried out his attack after being told to pay £206 a month from his £560 salary.

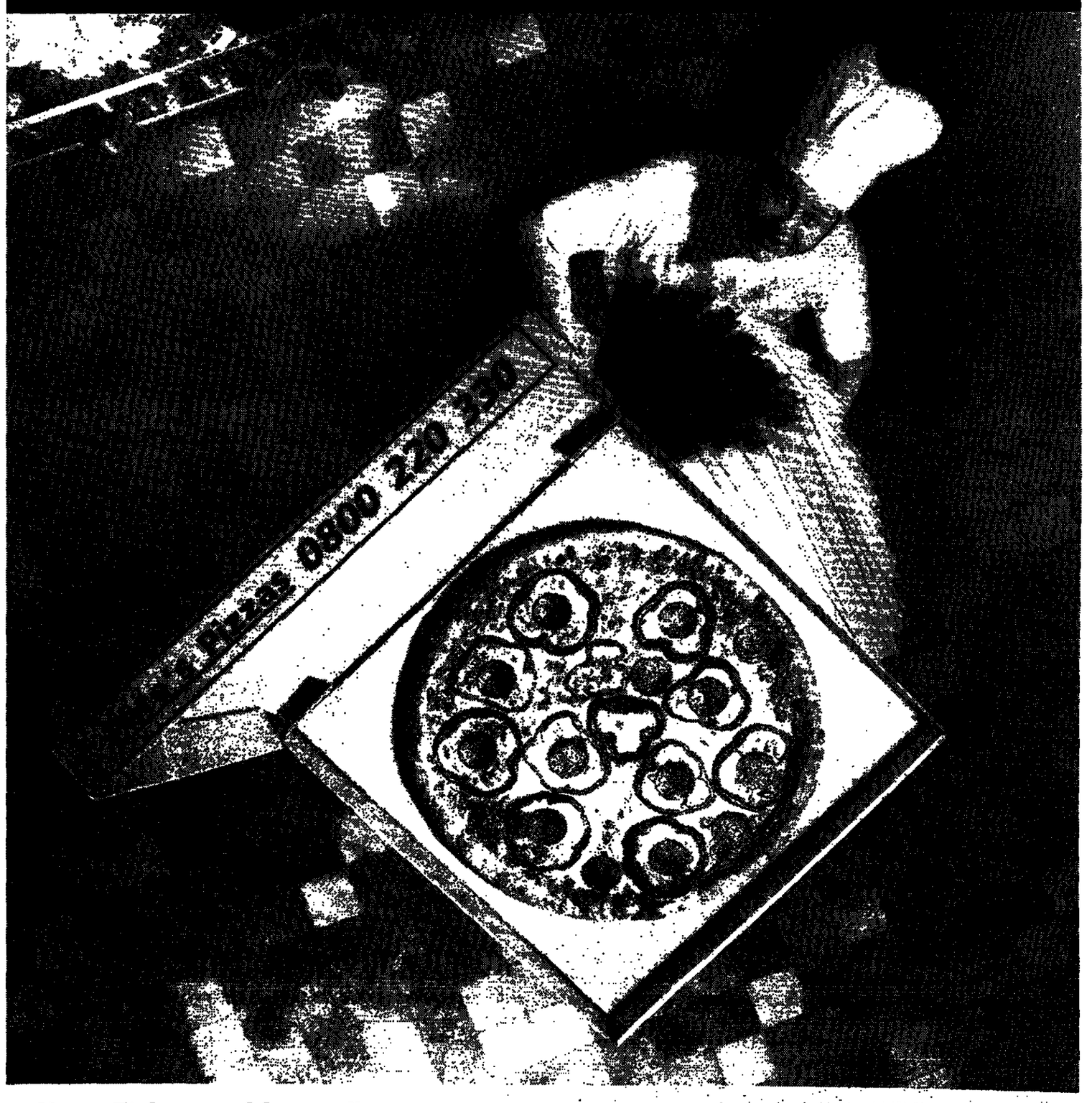
After the killing, Mr Reid had said in a statement to police: "I took the knife because I was afraid he might become violent. He is Army trained."

The case continues.

CORRECTION

An editing error in the Scotland supplement of April 18 gave the impression that Lagavulin and Ardbeg distilleries on Islay were for sale. They are not, and we apologise for the mistake.

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Prue Leith urges schools to revive lost art of cookery

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS have a duty to revive the dying art of "real cooking" among the TV dinner generation. Prue Leith, the food writer and restaurateur, will tell a conference today. In an attack on food technology in the national curriculum, Miss Leith will lament the decline of domestic science after a survey which showed half of 14-year-olds had never boiled an egg. She believes children as young as five should be taught how to bake bread or make pasta to counter the laziness of the ready-meals culture.

Miss Leith makes her call at the beginning of National School Meals Week, when school caterers will use sports stars to emphasise the importance of exercise and a balanced diet to children's health.

The author of *Leith's Cookery Bible*, who is chairman of the Royal Society of Arts, will argue at the society's Cookery Counts conference today that schools would benefit from finding time for cookery as well as basic literacy and numeracy.



Leith: she said cookery made school bearable

"The first thing you have to do is make children like school if you are going to teach them anything," she said. "One way is to allow them to make something, which is fun and also gives instant gratification. This goes beyond cooking — some of the things left out of the national curriculum were what made school bearable for some of us."

In her speech, she will say: "Children no longer learn to cook at mother's knee. Mother's knee is out working.

"A food technology class these days is more likely to consist of designing a pizza topping on screen than making a pizza. I find the idea of children going home with a computer printout of a pizza topping profoundly depressing. Real cooking is satisfying, creative and teaches you a lot more than a useful skill. What's more, it's fun.

"What better way to interest primary school children in physics, chemistry, nutrition, maths, geography or social history? Or to encourage teamwork, problem solving and innovation?"

A spokeswoman for the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority agreed that food technology lessons aimed to teach children the processes rather than the art of cooking. Home economics was a separate, optional topic. "The objective of the design and technology curriculum is not to teach children how to cook," she said. "It is to get children to understand the whole concept of design and making things, and how raw materials of different kinds can be transformed into something else, and that this something else is a coherent product designed for a particular purpose."

The authority said it was planning to send head teachers a lesson pack called Chefs in Schools next term.

School dinners across the country were served up with a sporty theme at the launch of National School Meals Week yesterday. Pupils were treated to dishes such as Go Fasta Pasta, Navratilova Pavlova and Ooh-Ah Cantona Casserole to entice more pupils to eat a main meal at school.

Each day this week will be themed to tennis, athletics, football, cricket and swimming. Sports stars giving their support to the scheme include the tennis player Tim Henman, the athlete Sally Gunnell, the footballer Alan Shearer and the cricketer Nasser Hussein.

Government guidelines issued earlier this year stated that pasta and oven-cooked chips should replace sausages, dumplings and deep-fried chips to ensure that children ate more healthily.

TIM BISHOP



Food technology lessons should give schoolchildren more hands-on experience in the kitchen, rather than stale theories, argues Prue Leith

Private schools owe growth to assisted places

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

INDEPENDENT schools yesterday announced their biggest rise in enrolments for a decade. But half the increase came from the Conservative Government's expansion of assisted places, which Labour is to phase out.

Nurseries and preparatory schools showed the strongest growth in the annual census carried out by the Independent Schools Information Service. Secondary schools are still suffering from the effects of the recession, with only sixth-forms attracting more pupils than last year.

Numbers of day pupils are approaching record levels, having increased by almost 10,000 since the start of 1996. An influx of foreign pupils has held the decline in boarding to fewer than 2,000 places.

David Woodhead, the national director of Isis, said that the schools' improved position constituted a vote of confidence in independent education and reflected parents' optimism about their financial prospects. The 1.7 per cent increase in enrolments at 1,310 schools brought the total to almost 474,000 pupils.

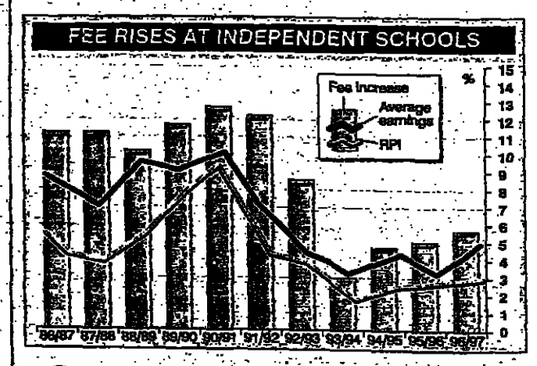
But the withdrawal of assisted places and a possible threat to independent schools' charitable status has clouded the sector's longer-term prospects. The slight drop in secondary school numbers would have been much larger without the 3,800 pupils supported by the Government. The full effects of the change will be felt early in the next century, and bursars' representatives admit that some schools might close as a result.

Head teachers and governors are still considering whether to mount a legal challenge if the new Government refuses to support preparatory school pupils with assisted places throughout their school careers. But they are anxious to head off any move to alter their charitable status by highlighting a record of community involvement and demonstrating a willingness to do more.

Michael Mavor, the Head Master of Rugby School, who chairs the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, said that the independent sector might supply specialist teaching to state schools and could share the expertise of its sports coaches. "We would prefer to see teachers fully occupied teaching minority subjects, rather than teaching tiny sets in our own schools."

Nick Bevan, Headmaster of Shiplake College, Oxfordshire, and chairman of the Society of Headmasters and Headmistresses of Independent Schools, said many schools were opening their facilities to community use. His school allowed pupils from a neighbouring primary school free use of its computers.

Almost a third of pupils are receiving some help with fees, one in five through scholarships and bursaries provided by the schools themselves.



Quarter of boarders live outside Britain

MORE than a quarter of all boarders now come from outside the United Kingdom.

The Independent Schools Information Service claimed yesterday that the boom in foreign recruitment was worth £200 million a year to Britain. But head teachers said that some schools were in danger of upsetting the balance of pupils by taking too many non-English speakers.

An increase of 8.8 per cent in new overseas enrolments approached the record rises of recent years. About 20,000 foreign pupils are studying in independent schools.

David Woodhead, the national director of Isis, said the figures represented a success story for independent education, but that schools recognised the need to maintain the character of education sought by parents. In most schools, foreign pupils accounted for only 10-15 per cent of places, he said. Most of the increase comes from the Continent, the Far East and South America.

	Total	% change since 1996
Continental Europe	2,408	6.2
Far East (except Taiwan, Hong Kong)	1,785	19.9
Hong Kong	1,585	-7.9
North America	784	30.0
Africa	630	-1.9
Central and S America, Caribbean	277	72.0
Middle East	277	22.6
Taiwan	205	10.8
Australasia	82	-14.6
All foreign pupils	7,831	8.8

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Private buyer expected for Rothschild seat taken over by disciples of Beatles guru

Sect seeks £10m from sale of Mentmore

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT AND JOANNA BALE

A SUMPTUOUS former family seat of the Rothschilds, which for 20 years has been devoted to the teachings of the Beatles' guru, is for sale at between £10 million and £15 million. The agents for Mentmore Towers, Buckinghamshire, are expecting a private buyer.

The Grade I listed house, set in 81 acres in the Vale of Aylesbury, boasts 50 bedrooms, a grand entrance hall and five state reception rooms.

The home's third owner would be assured of an eccentric heritage. Built as an extended hunting lodge for the Rothschild family in 1852, the 100 rooms have more recently hosted followers of the transcendental meditation movement founded by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. The Maharishi Foundation bought Mentmore for £247,000 in 1978 and is planning to build bigger, purpose-built headquarters.

The extravagant Victorian pile, with huge towers and an elaborate skyline, was designed for Baron Meyer Amschel de Rothschild by Sir Joseph Paxton, designer of the Crystal Palace, and his son-in-law, G. H. Stokes.

The Rothschild wealth, estimated at £300 million when the Queen was worth perhaps £5 million, ensured that it became a treasury of European art. Paintings by Rembrandt, Murillo and Turner, Sèvres porcelain, tapestries, bronzes, Limoges enamels and priceless objects from the Doges Palace in Venice filled its rooms.

When the fifth Earl of Rosebery, later a Liberal Prime Minister and racehorse breeder, married the baron's daughter Hannah in 1878, he expanded the collection, which became one of the richest and most remarkable in private hands.

Many of the contents were auctioned in 1977 when the then owner, the 7th Earl of Rosebery, faced huge death duties on the death of his father. He had offered the house to the Government in lieu of £4.5 million, but despite a campaign to save it for the nation, Peter Shore, who was the Environment Minister, turned it down. The auction, dubbed the Sale of the Century, followed.

Nevertheless the new owner need not fear being short of treasures and antiquities. The fireplace in the vast Italianate entrance hall was taken from Rubens's house in Antwerp and is estimated to be worth £750,000.

Panelling in the dining room was imported from the royal Hotel de Villars in Paris and is lined with 16th-century Genoese velvet, mirrors with ornate gilt frames and Vanloo paintings.

Around the hall runs a gallery of green Siberian marble and alabaster, with 15 suites of rooms leading off. Recently they have been inhabited by 30 to 55 Maharishi followers and its banquet halls have been let for conferences and dinners. The foundation bought the empty house in 1978 for about £200,000 and called it the University of Natural Law, recently letting some rooms to the Natural Law Party.

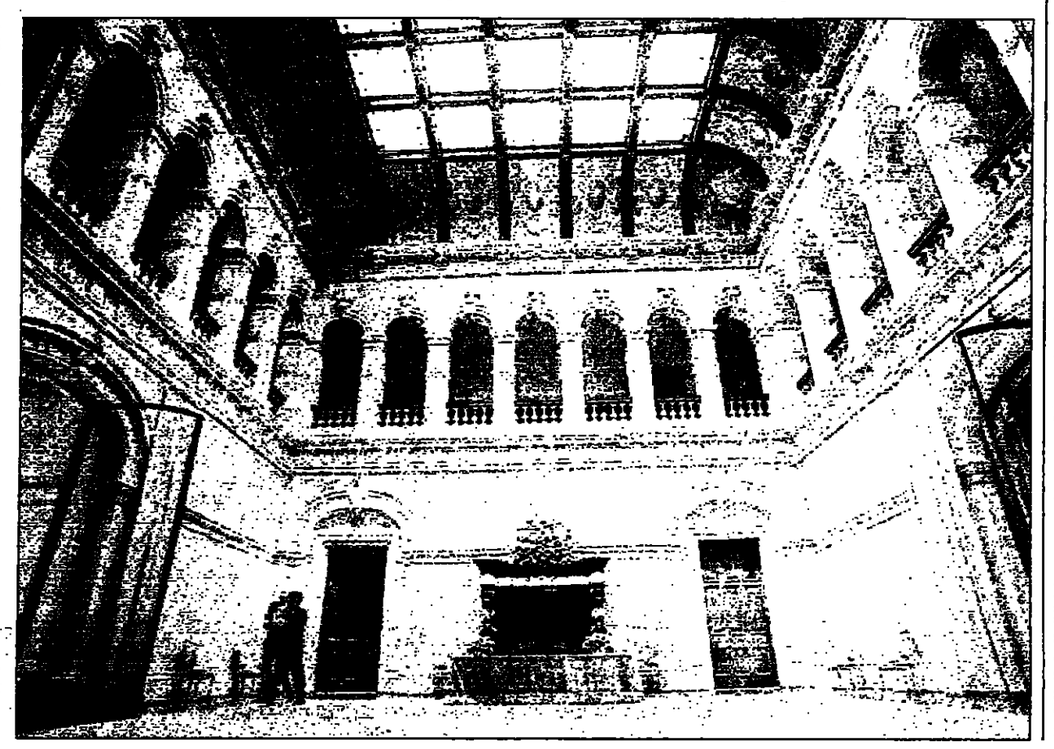
The foundation is seeking 100 acres in the Home Counties on which to build headquarters. They leave behind a new central heating system and the possibility of hidden treasures. The house has so many secret rooms that, when Sothebys examined the house in preparation for the 1977 auction, it found silverware worth £20,000 in a forgotten safe.

Ian Stewart, director for Savills, agents for the sale, said he that felt the house would be purchased by a private buyer rather than a hotel or corporate chain. "We will be advertising internationally. There are people who have made a fortune who would enjoy the challenge of making the house their own."

ASHLEY COOMBES



The extravagant Victorian skyline that gave Mentmore Towers its name and, below, the hall; its fireplace from Rubens's house in Antwerp is valued at £750,000





Coat of arms for Meyer Amschel de Rothschild

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rider offers reward to catch thugs

The international show-jumper Monica Campbell has offered £1,000 for information to identify thugs who tied a pony to a Gateshead railway track and set its mane on fire. Passers-by rescued Bobby, a Shetland belonging to Anthony Flax, aged 4. Ms Campbell, of Hartfield, Sussex, former winner of the British ladies championship, said: "If this helps bring these people to justice, it will be well spent."

Murder charge

A sixth man appeared in court charged with the murder of a Roman Catholic in Portadown, Co Armagh. Rory Robinson, 25, a fitter and welder, was remanded in custody. Robert Hamill was attacked on April 27 and died last week.

Trial dropped

Scott Bailey, whose partner died during intercourse, is not to be tried for manslaughter, Judge Denison told the Old Bailey. Andrew McPhail's heart stopped because of compression to his neck. He had taken amyl nitrate, a misused heart drug.

Moth warning

Holidaymakers at Portland, Dorset, are being told to guard against the brown tussock moth, which sheds barbed hairs that can cause itchiness. The council has asked English Nature to eradicate the orange-spotted colonisers.

True crime tour

"Mad" Frankie Fraser, who has spent 40 of his 73 years in jail, launched a £25-a-head coach tour of east London gangland, calling at the Krays' former territory, notorious pubs and the Old Bailey. "True crime is part of the national heritage," he said.

Deer ride

A young deer found itself in a passenger seat on a school bus near Chippenham, Wiltshire, after it leapt a hedge and went through the windscreen. The driver suffered shock and a vet treated the stunned deer. There were no other passengers.

Bittern is not booming after harsh winter

BITTERNS, already among Britain's rarest birds, have suffered a sharp decline over the past winter and are now on the edge of extinction (Michael Hornsby writes).

A survey by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds this year has found only 13 males. The birds are so elusive that sightings are rare — they are detected by their "booming" mating call, similar to a distant foghorn. "Last year we counted 22 booming males, so this is a dramatic decline," Chris Harbard, of the RSPB, said. "A poor breeding season last summer, followed by a severe winter, took a heavy toll. The bittern is a water bird and is soon in difficulties if it cannot find unfrozen areas in which to catch fish."

The heron-sized bittern, *Botaurus stellaris*, joins a handful of other rare birds clinging to survival in Britain, including the wood sandpiper and the wryneck, which number no more than five pairs each. In February the European Union announced a grant of £1.5 million to the RSPB and other groups in the Bittern Partnership to help to conserve the birds. The money will be spent on restoring and enlarging reedbeds, the bittern's breeding-ground, at the dozen or so sites where the birds are found, mainly in wetland areas of Norfolk, Suffolk and Lancashire.

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Hip replacement spells the end for morning cuppa



MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE Queen Mother took the salute and made an inspection at the annual parade of the Combined Cavalry Old Comrades in Hyde Park on Sunday. Two years ago she was wheelchair-bound, but can now walk again, thanks to a hip replacement.

Every year in Britain there are 40,000 hip replacements, and a further 13,000 revision operations to replace an artificial hip joint which has worked loose. An artificial hip joint is only for life if the patient is elderly when the initial operation was done — and no longer plays tennis or cricket.

Because arthritic, painful hip joints are now, rightly, being replaced at an earlier age — when people are more energetic — the average time that they last has not increased over the 30 or 40 years in which they have been routinely fitted. Great efforts have been made to find a hip prosthesis which will not work loose, but so far without success.

A report in the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* suggests that the secret of obtaining a longer-lasting new hip joint may lie in finding a way to strengthen the soft cancellous bone which exists inside the hard outer casing of a bone.

Hormone replacement therapy is not the only way of arresting the progress of osteoporisis, which weakens the bone. The biphosphonates, the best known of which is Fosamax, also toughens it. The authors of the report suggest that taking Fosamax alendronate sodium may reduce the weakening in the cancellous bone which occurs after a hip replacement and may lessen the movement in the new joint.

Fosamax has side-effects, the most important of which is inflammation in the gullet and sometimes ulceration. It needs to be taken early in the morning, at least half an hour before any other food or drink. Fosamax should be swallowed with a glass of water while the patient is standing upright and the patient should not lie down for 30 minutes.

Fosamax therapy is therefore incompatible with a morning cup of tea, but these precautions ensure maximum benefit with a minimum chance of developing the frightening indigestion brought on by a severe ulceration of the gullet. Just as there is likely to be an newer version of HRT with fewer serious side-effects than existing HRT, so it is rumoured other more tea-friendly biphosphonates are about to be marketed.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Cook makes grand entrance for role on the world stage

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

PRECEDED by a slick, fast-moving film of British achievements backed by music that pounded like *Chariots of Fire*, Robin Cook strode into the Victorian splendour of the Foreign Office Locarno Room yesterday to introduce his team to the press and his policies to the world.

Comparing new Labour to a modern business, the Foreign Secretary presented his long-awaited mission statement. In it, he signalled a tough line on human rights, curbs on arms exports, a commitment to put the global environment at the heart of foreign policy and measures to promote exports, boost jobs and inject more business experience into the Diplomatic Service.

The images of British success flashed across a massive high-tech triptych: soldiers helping Bosnian refugees, Eurostar racing into the Channel Tunnel, slinky British models purring down the catwalk, brokers furiously dealing wealth in the City of London.

Labour's first press conference was a stunning display. Quick-changing film clips lit up the themes that were shortly to be laid out in Mr Cook's statement. All the achievements were there — the oil rigs, racing cars, London's theatre and ballet — so too were the challenges: war, the environment, the conquest of space.

The Victorians would have recognised the boasting; the Americans would recognise the slick presentation. The film show ended with *Labour's victory*, and the new team taking command. Robin Cook strides into his crimson and gilt office, throws off his jacket and gets down to work. And exactly on cue, the real Mr Cook comes into the room, smiling with his new team for the cameras and the history books. No one could call Labour's Foreign Office stuffy.

Mr Cook made clear that Europe and the Commonwealth would be the immediate focus of Labour's attention. But Nato would remain the core of its security policy, and the relationship with Washington would be stronger than it was under the Tories.

The Government would adopt a much harsher line towards countries such as Nigeria which do not respect human rights. "Our foreign policy must have an ethical dimension and must support the demands of other people for the democratic rights on which we insist for ourselves," he said.

The Government would give new momentum to arms control and disarmament, and had already announced support for a ban on landmines. Mr Cook underlined Labour's eight-point plan on arms exports, published before the election, which outlined tough criteria for the arms trade. He said that Britain's position as one of the world's leading arms exporters meant that it had to show responsibility and ensure that the trade was properly regulated.

The Foreign Secretary outlined two priorities for the British presidency of the European Union, which begins in January: removing remaining barriers to trade within the single market and getting talks on enlargement "off to a flying start".

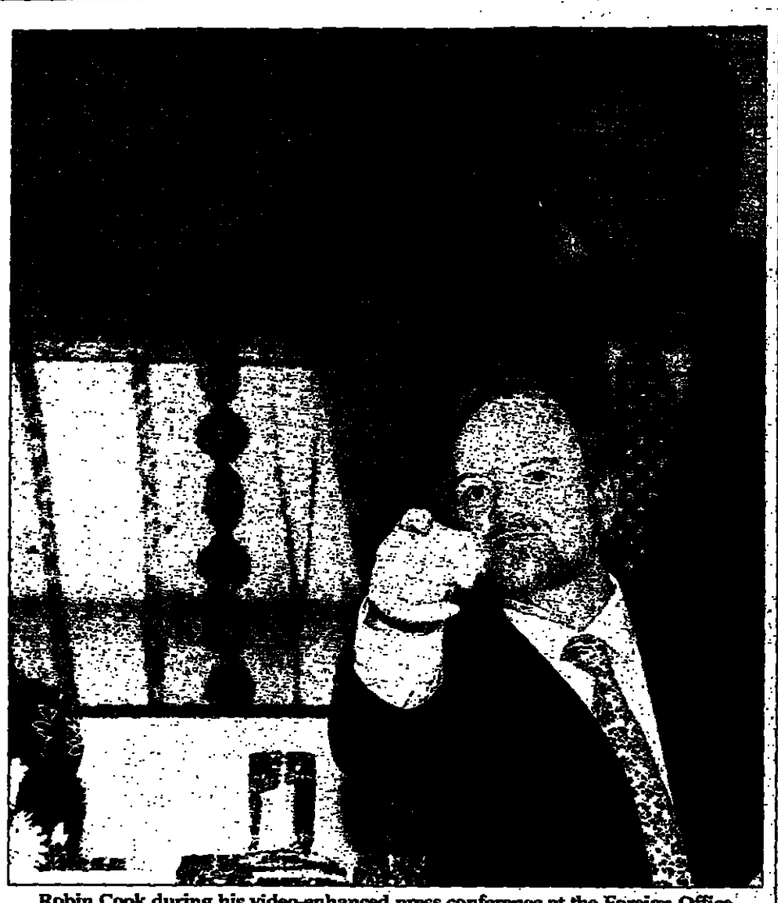
He said that unlike the Tories Labour could offer a Government "with a secure majority at Westminster and a strong leader in Downing Street, able to seize the opportunity to shape the direction in Europe."

As a prerequisite to European Union enlargement, Mr Cook insisted that the Common Agricultural Policy must be reformed. It must move away from subsidies on production and output to a system for the proper management of the countryside. Labour would advocate being tough on waste.

He repeated Labour's caution of a single currency, saying that it was unlikely that Britain would join in the first wave. But Labour would not try to sabotage the preparations for the euro during the British presidency. "We shall honourably seek to facilitate what other members of the EU may wish to do themselves."

The five strategic aims outlined in the statement are to:

- ☐ Make Britain a leading player in a Europe of independent states;
- ☐ Strengthen the Commonwealth;
- ☐ Use Britain's status at the United Nations to secure more effective action to achieve peace and combat poverty;
- ☐ Increase respect and goodwill for Britain among the peoples of the world, drawing on the assets of the British Council and the BBC World Service;
- ☐ Strengthen our relationships in all regions of the world.



Robin Cook during his video-enhanced press conference at the Foreign Office

Clarke's casual style belies his serious intent

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Kenneth Clarke has been the odd man out among the six Tory leadership contenders. He has had no formal launch for his campaign, has given no interviews about his inner self, has written no articles about the way ahead, has not been eagerly courting the press and has not published lists of supporters. MPs, and journalists, wonder whether Ken is being his usual casual self? They are wrong.

Mr Clarke is deadly serious about the contest, as he is about the future of his party. There is an organised Clarke campaign. Yesterday he raised his profile by sending a letter to MPs. But he is fighting in a very different way. This is partly his personal style. He dislikes the current soap opera with rival candidates making anodyne statements. He believes this is not sustainable over several weeks. So he and his team of a dozen or more MPs are concentrating on direct personal contacts, what the Americans call retail rather than wholesale politics.

The former Chancellor is anyway in a different position from his rivals, who are all fighting over similar ground. He has a long track record and a distinctive stance. He is seeking support on grounds of experience and electability, as the best person to take on Tony Blair in the Commons and in the country. Revealingly, his main public interviews since the election have been as Shadow Chancellor in commenting upon the actions of Gordon Brown.

Mr Clarke's problem is, of course, to avoid being labelled as a wild pro-European, in the ugly jargon a Euro-philiac. In his letter, he portrays himself as "a politician of the Centre-Right who has been at the heart of the Conservative revolution" and who rejects further transfers to the EU. He argues that if the party "is perceived to swing further to the ideological right, and also to become hardline nationalist, anti-European, it will make itself unelectable". He argues that by keeping options open on a single currency he is keeping the party in the mainstream of the business and financial world. On his view, if the Tories said say never, "most of the business and financial community would reject such a dogmatic and isolationist position and reject our party if we espoused it".

Mr Clarke draws a parallel with Labour's lurch to the left in the early 1980s. Just as Labour did not lose then because it was not sufficiently left-wing, so the Tories did not lose on May 1 because they were not right-wing or Eurosceptic enough. In his letter, he points out that "In defeat the Labour Party chose Michael Foot to unite the party and rejected Denis Healey, who had offended the unilateralist nuclear disarmers. They failed to convince the voters in the 'nuclear election' of 1983 and cleared the way for a generation of Conservative rule". Similarly, the views of the other candidates on a single currency risk driving the Tories "to the political fringe both at home and in European politics".

These are real dangers for the Tories. The recent infighting and Mr Clarke's letter underline the parlous state of the party, which may get much worse. In their battered and fractious mood, Tory MPs may opt for the Foot option. Mr Clarke may do well in the first round of the election, ahead of the more right-wing candidates. He even could go through to the final round if the Right remains badly split. But he is highly unlikely to win in the end. By standing, however, he may demonstrate the extent of support for his viewpoint in the parliamentary party and so win influence and room for manoeuvre for him and his allies even under a sceptic leader.

PETER RIDDELL

Ashdown strengthens his frontbench team

PADDY ASHDOWN has appointed a full team of Liberal Democrat spokesmen for the first time in more than 50 years thanks to the big increase in the party's strength at Westminster (Polly Newton writes).

The party won 46 seats, up 20 on their pre-election total. Mr Ashdown has left his frontbench team almost untouched. Archie Kirkwood, Chief Whip since 1992, has decided not to stand for re-election to the post. Paul Tyler (North Cornwall) is the only nominee. Mr Tyler's former job of agriculture and rural affairs spokesman goes to Charles Kennedy (Ross, Skye and Inverness West).

Menzies Campbell, the frontbench spokesman on foreign affairs and defence, will take over Mr Kennedy's European brief. Mr Kirkwood becomes frontbench spokesman on social security and welfare.

The health team, which will continue to be led by Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey), includes a former hospital doctor, Evan Harris (Oxford West and Abingdon), and a former GP, Peter Brand (Isle of Wight).

Labour MPs take survival course

BY JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S 182 new MPs are to be given counselling sessions over the next few weeks on how to behave in the Commons and how to deal with political journalists.

Senior whips are to hold a series of induction meetings with groups of 20 to 30 new MPs. Today all 182 will also be told at a London conference how they need to start working now to ensure that they keep their seats at the next general election.

The counselling sessions will be informal gatherings where MPs will get tips on how to avoid gaffes, mishaps and confusion at Westminster. Backbenchers will be told how to act in the Commons Chamber — to cheer rather than clap (as they did on their first day in the Chamber last week) and when and how to table parliamentary questions. Experts will go through the minutiae of parliamentary procedures and the whipping system.

One of the sessions will be on the workings of the lobby, which enables MPs to talk to journalists on a non-attributable basis. The lobby lunch — a private gathering of MPs or ministers and one or more journalists — is a minefield of which MPs will be warned.

MPs will also be given practical advice on finding their way around the Commons maze of committee rooms, restaurants and bars.

Labour intends that its MPs will be making good use of this information and advice for many years to come. Today's conference will focus on the need to work hard as a constituency MPs to ensure success at the next general election. The main message will be the need to keep busy in the constituency and to organise effectively. The new MPs will be told to build on contacts made during the general election, particularly in new Labour constituencies. They will also be told to maintain good liaison with the local press.

Most MPs will have been sent a set of "Big Brother" instructions telling them how to find accommodation and how to hire staff and advising them to inform bank managers of the likely need for an overdraft. A document was sent to all candidates about six months ago to warn them of what to expect if they were elected. The whips have compiled a list of suitable hotels for MPs who have nowhere permanent to live, and a file of people who want to work for Labour MPs.

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Bonn police struggle to halt gang warfare

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

POLICE yesterday surrounded a funfair outside Bonn in an attempt to stop yet another outburst of gang warfare between young ethnic German emigrés from Russia and Turkish teenagers.

The fighting on Saturday and Sunday night — with knives, gas guns and baseball bats — caused dozens of injuries and, police said, threatened to continue after dark last night.

Gang wars have been waged in many German cities without attracting much notice outside the casualty wards of local hospitals. But this particular clash, in the town of Euskirchen, near Bonn, coincided with the latest national crime statistics which show a rapid rise in numbers of young violent offenders.

The result yesterday was appeals for greater police powers, tougher action on younger teenagers who go unprosecuted and some nervous rumination about the role of foreigners in German society. More than 18 per cent of crimes committed by minors last year were ascribed to foreign youths.

The figures for 1996 show that juvenile offences are the fastest growing aspect of crime in Germany. About 131,000 children were caught committing crimes last year. Half of them were shoplifters but the police also noted a sharp increase in violent crime by minors, especially in eastern Germany.

The funfair war in Euskirchen is typical: it began as a drunken brawl between 30 ethnic Germans from Russia and a group of Turks. After a Turk's face was slashed, reinforcements were called, and by the end of Saturday night more than 200 people were in a battle with the same number of police trying to separate the gangs. The performance was repeated on Sunday.

The youth gangs sometimes fight for territory — especially in dormitory suburbs — and sometimes for control of drug distribution.

The resentment between ethnic Germans and Turks is directly related to Germany's citizenship laws. Ethnic Germans emigrating from the east are given automatic German citizenship if they can prove their German heritage. Many, however, speak little or no German. Turks often speak fluent German, having grown up in the country, yet are denied citizenship. The tribal wars in Germany vary, from skinheads versus punks or anarchists in balaclavas, to rival football fans, or west Berlin youths against easterners.

Steffen Heitmann, the Justice Minister of Saxony, is one of many calling for tougher action. "I don't know if it's right that one should apply again and again juvenile law against 18 to 21-year-olds. I think that such cases should now become the exception."

Herr Heitmann also called for the quicker processing of arrested offenders so that there are more places in detention centres for young suspects. At present, because of a lack of prison space, many young offenders are allowed to live at home while awaiting trial. Some police officers are also appealing for a lowering of the age of criminal prosecution to 14 years.

Even in sleepy Bonn, Georg Classen, the chief of police, has noted a wave of youth crime. "Kids are holding flick-knives at the throats of their schoolmates in order to snatch a Gameboy."



Moshe Dayan: regarded the Israeli capture of the Golan Heights from Syria as one of his biggest mistakes

Golan 'was taken for farmland'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL seized the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War because Israelis wanted it for farmland, according to a newly published interview with Moshe Dayan, the former Defence Minister, who died in 1981.

Dayan, the most colourful of Israel's soldier politicians, regarded the decision to allow Jews to return to the West Bank city of Hebron and the capture of the Golan Heights as his two greatest mistakes, according to Rami Tal, an Israeli journalist who interviewed the general in 1976.

Discounting claims of the strategic value of the Golan Heights, now a key platform of the foreign policy of the right-wing Government of Binyamin Netanyahu, Dayan — who was appointed Defence Minister on the eve of the 1967 war after public pressure — disclosed that Israel took the plateau from Syria for farmland.

Israeli leaders have consistently maintained that the Golan Heights are too important for Israel's defence to return. Until Israel captured the Golan, Syria often used it to shell Israeli border communities.

According to Dayan, a one-time Chief of Staff, Israel deliberately provoked the shootings as a pretext to attack. "We would send a tractor to plough some area where it was not possible to do anything, in the demilitarised area, and know in advance that the Syrians would start to shoot," he admitted. "If they did not shoot, we would tell the tractor to advance further."

> "We are not always victims. There is a myth of farmers being shot at — the truth is more ambiguous"

Dayan said pressure from Israel's kibbutzim led to the land grab. "Along the Syrian border there were no farms and no refugee camps, there was only the Syrian Army," he said. "The kibbutzim saw the good agricultural land . . . and they dreamt about it.

"In two cases I did not fulfil my role as Defence Minister, in that I did not stop things that I was sure should have been stopped." Dayan said of the two events which have since been formative in shaping Israel's strained relations with the Arab world.

Dayan's politician daughter, Yael, confirmed the veracity of the interview, saying that her father seemed to regret his handling of Hebron most. Dayan said he granted permission to Moshe Levinger, a settler leader, to enter conquered Hebron on condition that the American-born rabbi and his family stayed only for the week-long Passover holiday. The rabbi never left and became the father of the Jewish settler movement.

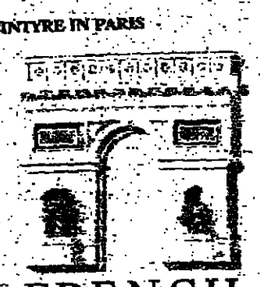
Mr Tal said about 60 per cent of the interview was still unpublished because he considers most of it too personal — such as remarks about the many women in the life of the swashbuckling Dayan, who was a legendary womaniser.

Amos Eran, a government official at the time, said Dayan's regret about the Golan arose from the fact that he wanted the Heights only as a bargaining chip. "Dayan did not want the Government to allow the kibbutzim to build there — he hoped to trade it back for peace," Mr Eran said. About 15,000 Jewish settlers live on the Golan today.

Mr Tal said his revelations would clear up misconceptions about the fateful Six-Day War. "We are not always the victims. There is a myth of peaceful farmers being shot at by Syrians — the truth is more ambiguous."

Delors emerges as popular choice for premiership

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS



FRENCH ELECTIONS

AS THE countdown to the French election continues with the major parties jockeying for position, the Parisian corridors of power are abuzz with the names of possible prime ministerial contenders, after June 1, including Jacques Delors, the Socialist former President of the European Commission.

The choice of prime minister resides with President Chirac, and if the Left wins outright, he would be expected to offer the job to Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Party leader. In the event of a hung parliament or if M Jospin unexpectedly declines the post, as M Chirac himself did in 1993, then a "cohabitation" with M Delors as prime minister becomes an intriguing, if distant, possibility.

M Delors has not suggested he wants the job, but appointing the man who headed the Commission from 1985 to 1995 would underscore M Chirac's commitment to European integration and assuage fears that a Socialist government, having campaigned against further austerity to meet the Maastricht criteria, would necessarily spell doom for the single currency project. It is also conceivable that, in the short term, M Jospin would rather see someone else handle the tricky, and possibly explosive, next phase in the run-up to economic and monetary union.

M Delors is the most popular political figure in France, as respected as the present Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, is disliked. Relations between M Chirac and M Delors are close.

An opinion poll at the weekend showed that French business leaders would overwhelmingly favour the appointment of M Delors as prime minister if the Left were to win. Out of 350 top businessmen questioned, 53 per cent said they preferred M Delors. Their second choice, with 11 per cent, was M Delors's daughter, Martine Aubry, the former Labour Minister who is expected to be awarded another senior ministerial post in a Socialist government. M Jospin was only the fifth choice, with a meagre 4 per cent.

Personal reasons, however, may militate against M Delors accepting the post if he were approached. He is known to be proud of his daughter's political success, and might balk at cramping her career by presiding over a Cabinet in which she was a member.

After two weeks of polls showing the Left gaining ground, the latest surveys indicate that the centre-right coalition will hold on to a majority, albeit sharply reduced, so the task of living with the Left is one that M Chirac may yet be spared.

Whatever the outcome, M Juppé's continued tenure at the Hôtel Matignon is far from certain and his rivals on the Right, scenting blood, are already circling.

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Ref. No. 96341

Dudley Moore's wife sues for $5m

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

DUDLEY MOORE kept a chilly silence yesterday in response to news that his wife is suing him for $5 million (£3 million) for allegedly beating, chasing, choking and humiliating her during their stormy three-year marriage.

The 62-year-old actor and musician, who returns to British theatre in a Southampton pantomime this year, is accused in the Californian lawsuit of mounting a campaign of verbal and physical abuse against his fourth wife, Nicole.

Mr Moore's publicist said "there is no comment and there will be no comment" on the latest twist in a relationship that appears to have been less a marriage than a long and very public dispute.

The lawsuit, filed in a Santa Monica court, alleges that "throughout the marriage, Dudley Moore assaulted and threatened to assault" his wife, verbally abusing her with terms such as "stupid" and "idiot" and once choking her almost to death.

Mr Moore demanded that Nicole, 32, dance for his sexual gratification, the suit continues, adding that he heaped further humiliation on her with claims in a recent authorised biography that she went on wild spending sprees with his credit cards, amassing bills of half a million dollars in a single year.

Mrs Moore, née Rothschild, who at 5ft 10in is eight inches taller than her husband, married him in 1994 barely a month after he was arrested, charged with assaulting her, and released. The couple frequently lived apart and Mrs Moore is reported to have spent as much time with her former husband, an Aids victim, as with Mr Moore.



Moore: accused of beating fourth wife

Top woman pilot's career wrecked by adulterous affair

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

KELLY FLINN was hailed as the first woman to pilot a B52 bomber for the United States Air Force. Then she fell in love and the sky fell in on her.

Now grounded, Lieutenant Flinn, 26, will be tried by court martial next Tuesday for adultery and other charges arising from her affair with a civilian. She admits to having fallen for Marc Zigo, a football coach, who lied to her about being legally separated from his wife.

The case is personally devastating for Lieutenant Flinn, who has gone from being rated first in her training class, an outstanding officer "head and shoulders above her peers", to social outcast.

It is also a nightmare for the air force, which is being vilified for heaping public humiliation on Lieutenant Flinn over an unhappy episode in her life that could have been easily handled with quiet counselling or, at the most, a behind-the-scenes reprimand.

It was only too happy to produce a promotional film about Lieutenant Flinn when she was making air force history, but has now abandoned her to a ruined career. She faces the possibility of dismissal and up to nine and a half years in prison for circumstances that would go unpunished in civilian life.

Nor is this the first time the air force has taken an unforgiving stance. The numbers tried for adultery have quadrupled in a decade, to 67 last year. One of them, Lieutenant-Colonel Karen Tew, dismissed for adultery with an enlisted man, committed suicide.

Lieutenant Flinn, youngest of five children of well-to-do parents, had always wanted to fly. She first took the controls of a plane at the age of 11. She attended the tough air force academy. After graduation she was sent for B52 training that lasted six months and cost the air force more than $1 million.

> She did not date fellow officers. Instead, she simply fell in love with the wrong man

Posted to a B52 base in the desolate prairie of North Dakota, she was accepted, initially grudgingly, as the first woman pilot, but she gained respect. She did not date fellow officers, thinking that unprofessional.

Instead, as she puts it, she fell in love with the wrong man. Mr Zigo was charming but later it emerged that he was on probation for beating his wife.

The lieutenant had been discreet but word leaked out. Her commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Theodore LaPlante, gave her a written order forbidding her to have any further contact with Mr Zigo. Then Mr Zigo attempted suicide. Lieutenant Flinn went to his aid and let him move into her cottage.

But as the truth about him came out, Lieutenant Flinn's troubles worsened. She had disobeyed the colonel's order. She had lied to military investigators that her relationship with him had been platonic. She has been charged, in addition to adultery, with disobeying an order, making a false statement, conduct unbecoming an officer and fraternisation, this last offence the result of a brief fling with an unmarried airman not in her chain of command.

Lieutenant Flinn has support from high and low. Letters to her local paper in North Dakota are running heavily in her favour. One said: "I'd like to see you print an article about the next male pilot charged with adultery. Print his name and ruin his life before he has been found guilty."

TERRY GYDESEN / NEW YORK TIMES



Lieutenant Kelly Flinn, the first female B52 pilot, who faces a court martial

Russian beauty 'killed by gangsters'

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

THE dismembered body of a woman found near an abandoned luxury villa near Athens is that of a Russian beauty queen who apparently fell foul of a gangland feud between her compatriots, the Greek police said.

Workmen found pieces of the body of Svetlana Kotova, a former Miss Russia, stuffed into three travelling bags that appear to have been buried hastily in rough ground next to the three-storey villa.

Miss Kotova disappeared at about the same time that the villa's Russian occupant, Aleksandr Salonik — who was known in the Russian underworld as "Alexander the Great" — was found murdered in February, the police said.

Both killings took place along the so-called Apollo coast, south of Athens, on the road to Sounion, a district much sought after by the affluent. Miss Kotova was believed to have been Salonik's mistress.

The killers remain at large. The police believe they belong to at least one of three main underworld groups who operate from Russia and Kazakhstan and traffick in drugs and prostitution. Many gangsters entered the country several years ago along with several thousand ethnic Greeks, who took advantage of the break-up of the Soviet Union to return to Greece.

Girl, 10, left alone for four months

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SAND SPRINGS, OKLAHOMA

THE onset of Mother's Day in America may have prompted a ten-year-old girl to find help after four months of living alone in a mobile home with little food and no running water. Ashton Denice Saylor said she resorted to eating dog biscuits and puppy food but still attended school after her mother, Audrey Saylor, left home on the child's birthday on January 9. At best, authorities said, the girl had only occasional visits from relatives.

Police learnt about her plight on Sunday after she turned to a neighbour, asking if she could stay with him. John Kame said Ashton arrived crying at his door.

Police said yesterday that investigators had located the mother. "It may be that the girl was unsupervised instead of abandoned, which is still bad, but it's not quite as bad as being abandoned," Sheriff's Captain Jerry Griffin said.

Neighbours said they had never seen the girl's father. She was placed in state custody, and the investigation is continuing.

Ashton had made her mother a Mother's Day gift for Sunday, Captain Griffin said, but gave the gift to a friend's mother instead. Her adult cousin also lives with Mr Kame and knew the girl was living alone. But the cousin, Kima Soles, said she did nothing because she was trying to gain custody of Ashton and did not want to alert police.

Ashton told police she did not tell anyone her mother was missing because it might get her into trouble. She said she had seen her mother only once or twice since January 9.

Sonny Bono 'harassed assistant'

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

SONNY BONO, the Republican congressman formerly married to the actress Cher, is facing allegations that he once made "inappropriate advances" to a young research assistant.

The charges against Mr Bono, who was elected to Congress from California in 1994, are revealed in *Inside Congress*, a new book by Ron Kessler. Mr Kessler writes that the congressman, formerly a singer himself, paid excessive and unwelcome attention to Frederique Sandretto, 27, a Fulbright scholar who worked in his campaign office.

According to the book, Mr Bono "constantly asked her personal questions and commented on her appearance". He even tried to give her a gold ring, but she refused to accept it. After that, it appears, Ms Sandretto was relegated to "menial tasks" such as answering the telephone and opening Mr Bono's letters.

The allegations come at an awkward time for the diminutive politician, as he is reportedly considering the idea of running for the Senate.

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De Klerk's split with heir-apparent heralds oblivion for National Party



De Klerk: stature has diminished since 1990

The party which set up, ran and then abolished apartheid now seems to be on course to destroy itself, **R. W. Johnson** writes from Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICA is watching bemused as the National Party, which ruled from 1948 to 1994, seems intent on tearing itself to pieces.

When F. W. de Klerk, then President, announced the abolition of apartheid in 1990 and won a landslide victory in a whites-only referendum on constitutional reform, his standing was so great — and was enhanced by the award of a Nobel Peace Prize — there was heady talk that his party might win a one-man, one-vote election against the African National Congress. The Nationalists certainly hoped for 35-40 per cent of the ballot and were extremely chastened to emerge ultimately as the second biggest party with only 20.6 per cent. Since then the party has drifted to 16 per cent in the polls and is now racked by a damaging public fight between Mr de Klerk and his heir-apparent, Roelf Meyer, who led the Nationalists in the constitutional talks with the ANC.

Last year, Mr de Klerk appointed Mr Meyer as the party's General Secretary, but was forced to rescind his appointment this year under pressure from Hernus Kriel, the tough Nationalist Premier of the Western Cape, and Marthinus van Schalkwyk. Mr Meyer's rival for the party leadership, both of whom are deeply suspicion of his announced intention of seeking a new political alignment.

There is a growing feeling that Mr Meyer conceded far too much in the constitutional negotiations and that he has become closer to the ANC in spirit than is at all acceptable to the Nationalist grassroots. Mr Meyer has been consulting widely with other opposition figures and has publicly announced that he sees no future for the party in its current form and that it should dissolve itself to form part of a broader opposition grouping.

He has rejected a call by Mr de Klerk to cease his discussions with other parties and it seems certain that he will either have to resign from the party or be forced out.

The party is also suffering from a constant flow of apartheid-era atrocity stories from hearings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Mr de Klerk's insistence that he knew nothing of such crimes has worn thin with constant repetition and he now seems a much diminished figure. Most politicians feel that he made a great mistake by not retiring directly after the 1994 election. He now faces the accusation that he failed to obtain the power-sharing deal with the ANC that he promised to whites (and especially Afrikaners), and that he has in effect destroyed the National Party.

Mr Meyer is now doubtless right to argue that the party's past makes it all but impossible to garner sufficient non-white votes to mount an effective challenge to the ANC. But in South Africa's racially polarised society, it is not clear that a new political movement would find that much easier, despite the very deep popular disappointment with the ANC's failure to deliver on most of its election promises.

It is difficult to see how the Nationalists can avoid continuing decline. Its original Afrikaner nationalist mission lies in ruins — even South African Airways does not use Afrikaans in its flight announcements any more — and for a party so long used to power and the fruits of office, opposition politics has been a difficult and unwelcome experience which has seen most of the party's old guard rush to leave the scene.

New kidnap mars signing of peace deal with Chechens

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA and the breakaway republic of Chechnya signed a treaty yesterday aimed at ending 400 years of confrontation and setting out the principles for peaceful relations between Moscow and the volatile north Caucasus region.

The Kremlin ceremony also marked the first meeting between President Yeltsin and Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen leader, since his election as President of the republic in January. Mr Maskhadov was the rebel chief of staff during the region's 21-month war for independence in 1994-96. Tens of thousands of people, most of them civilians, died in the conflict, which ended with a ceasefire last summer, the withdrawal of Russian troops and an agreement to defer the question of Chechnya's status for five years.

The ceremony was marred, however, by the latest in a series of kidnappings of Russian journalists in Chechnya. On this occasion the victims were Yelena Masyuk, Russia's best known Chechen war reporter, and two of her television crew, who were seized at gunpoint during the weekend near the village of Samashki in western Chechnya. Ms Masyuk soared to prominence because of her outspoken reports for NTV television, which revealed the gross mishandling of the campaign by the Russian military command, as well as atrocities committed against civilians.

Her interviews with rebel leaders, including Shamil Basayev, who led the hostage-taking raid on the southern Russian town of Budennovsk in June 1995, brought threats of Russian criminal proceedings, although no charges were ever brought against her.

Mr Yeltsin said after yesterday's signing that the Chechen leader had denounced all acts of terrorism and had given him an assurance that "he will fight terrorists, look for the culprits and find them, that the Chechen authorities will free journalists and look for Russian prisoners of war".

While no treaty text was available, Mr Yeltsin said it declared "our firm intention never to use force or threaten to use it in relations between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Ichkeria" — the name preferred by Chechens.

Mr Maskhadov said his delegation had come to Moscow "in peace and for peace". He added: "By signing this document we have shown the whole world that the peace process is a reality." He avoided apportioning direct blame for the kidnappings, but said that they had been carried out by those opposed to the peace process. However, in an interview on Sunday with the Russian Ekho Moskvy radio station, he blamed Russian officials seeking to undermine the Chechen administration.

The kidnapping is the latest in a spate of such incidents since hostilities ended. An Italian journalist was freed last month after spending two months in captivity. His release followed that of two Russian journalists working for the ORT state television company. In both cases a large ransom is widely believed to have been paid. Another armed group is demanding $2 million (£1.2 million) for four Russian journalists who disappeared in March.

☐ **Moscow facelift:** Russia spent $292 million to rebuild the 18th-century Kremlin housing Mr Yeltsin's office and administration, the Interfax agency said. *(Reuter)*



Aslan Maskhadov and Boris Yeltsin sign the accord yesterday in front of Russian and Chechen delegates



AFP

A man is comforted yesterday next to the rubble of his home in Qayen, the epicentre of the earthquake

100,000 homeless in Iran quake

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA, JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND LIN JENKINS

NOT a single structure is left standing in the 200 Iranian villages hit by a massive earthquake, a United Nations official who flew over the region reported yesterday.

Hamid Reza Ghaffarzadeh, a representative of the UN Development Programme, in a brief telephone conversation with a colleague, described scenes of devastation in hundreds of villages. He is to present his written findings to UN headquarters today.

"What he saw was total destruction and massive damage — no standing structure and everything flattened in the 200 villages affected," the colleague told *The Times*. "He also said that the food and relief operations were being very efficiently organised by the Iranians because they have had experience with similar situations before."

Mr Ghaffarzadeh, who toured the affected eastern region of Iran with staff of the World Food Programme and UN High Commissioner for Refugees based in Mashhad, put the number of people made homeless by the Saturday quake at around 100,000.

President Rafsanjani toured the area where rescue workers said there was little chance of finding any more survivors in the quake that has killed at least 2,400 people.

International offers of help continued to pour in from the West and Middle Eastern countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia whose relations with Iran have been difficult.

Britain, which has not recived any request for help from the Tehran Government, yesterday pledged £100,000 to the Iranian Red Crescent.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies appealed for £5 million. Andres Frismark, a senior UN official in Tehran, said Iranian rescue teams "are doing a marvellous job but what has become critical is stocks".

Iran, which has mobilised more than 4,000 local volunteers, refused visas for a 14-strong team from the International Rescue Corps charity. They were due to fly out from London but Tehran said they were not needed. The charity believes it can help to save lives. It said: "We have known somebody to survive 17 days, but the maximum is normally ten to 13 days." A Swiss team was given nine visas.

Pyongyang foiled plot to kill Kim

Seoul: North Korea thwarted a plot by military cadets to assassinate Kim Jong Il in 1995, according to a Pyongyang defector in Seoul. The cadets planned to axe the country's leader to death during a martial arts display, according to South Korea's *Nae Woe Press*. But the plot involving about 200 cadets was uncovered by intelligence agents and the ringleaders were executed.

Meanwhile, 14 members of two North Korean families defected to the South by sea, becoming the first to flee their country by boat, the Defence Ministry said. *(Reuter, AP)*

Buthelezi was ANC target

Johannesburg: Thabo Mbeki, South Africa's Vice-President, has told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that an African National Congress unit operating during the 1980s drew up plans to assassinate Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party. He said the guerrillas were ordered to drop the idea by ANC headquarters because Inkatha members were no regarded as legitimate targets

Stowaways plead guilty

Nelson: Joanne and Sara Ingham, 18, the New Zealan twins found in the Australia outback last week after jumping ship with a Malaysia crewman, pleaded guilty i court here in the South Islan to charges of assault, failing answer court bail and breaching supervision orders. Bi was denied, though a lawy said their ordeal had probab changed them. *(AFP)*

Typhus rages in Burundi

Bujumbura: The world worst typhus outbreak for 5 years has infected thousanc of people in Burundi, th World Health Organisatio says. Some 20,000 typhu cases were reported between January and March, mostly i camps guarded by the Tutsi dominated army, to deny ac cess to Hutu rebels. *(Reuter)*

Tapie in new fraud trial

Marseilles: Bernard Tapie, 54, the former tycoon in jail for match-rigging and interfering with witnesses, appeared in court with 19 others on charges of embezzling Fr100 million (£10.5 million) from Olympique Marseilles, his football club. *(Reuter)*

India and Pakistan to free captives

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN ISLAMABAD

THE most successful high-level meeting for years between India and Pakistan yesterday raised hopes that thousands of divided families might be allowed to see each other for the first time in half a century.

It was also agreed to release each other's prisoners, all fishermen accused of illegally entering territorial waters, and to set up a hotline between the two prime ministerial offices. There were unprecedented joint calls for reduced military spending.

The families were separated during the run-up to the partition of the subcontinent in August 1947. In one of the world's biggest migrations, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs crossed the frontier by train, lorry, bus and bullock cart, and many walked hundreds of miles with meagre possessions. Each community left behind family members who were too frail or poor to leave, or simply refused to move. Until recently, divided families living outside the main cities were unable to establish telephone contacts, so poor were cross-border telecommunications. Postal links have always been difficult.

There was a rare mood of conciliation yesterday when Nawaz Sharif, elected Prime Minister of Pakistan three months ago, and Inder Kumar Gujral, the new Prime Minister of India, had talks at a meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation in the Maldives. The two men get on well and share fluency in Urdu and Punjabi.

Mr Sharif, speaking before he met his Indian counterpart, called for a lowering of regional tensions, which would lead to less military spending and a better quality of life for people of the region. Mr Gujral called Mr Sharif a close personal friend. Never in half a century of enmity has there been such ostentatious amity.

Their informal talks reinforced the improved atmosphere between the two countries, without yielding any immediate practical results. India and Pakistan have never seemed more willing to shed their old rhetoric of hostility, although the dispute over Kashmir continues to blight relations. They have fought three wars, two over Kashmir.

Mr Sharif, with a two-thirds parliamentary majority, is in an exceptionally strong position to put relations with India on a new footing. However, he would find it politically difficult to make key concession over Kashmir. Mr Gujral, 76, born in Jhelum in what is now Pakistan — like Mr Sharif, he is a Punjabi — has declared it a "mission" to see normalised relations with Pakistan in his lifetime.



Garry Kasparov with his trophy after he resigned against the IBM supercomputer

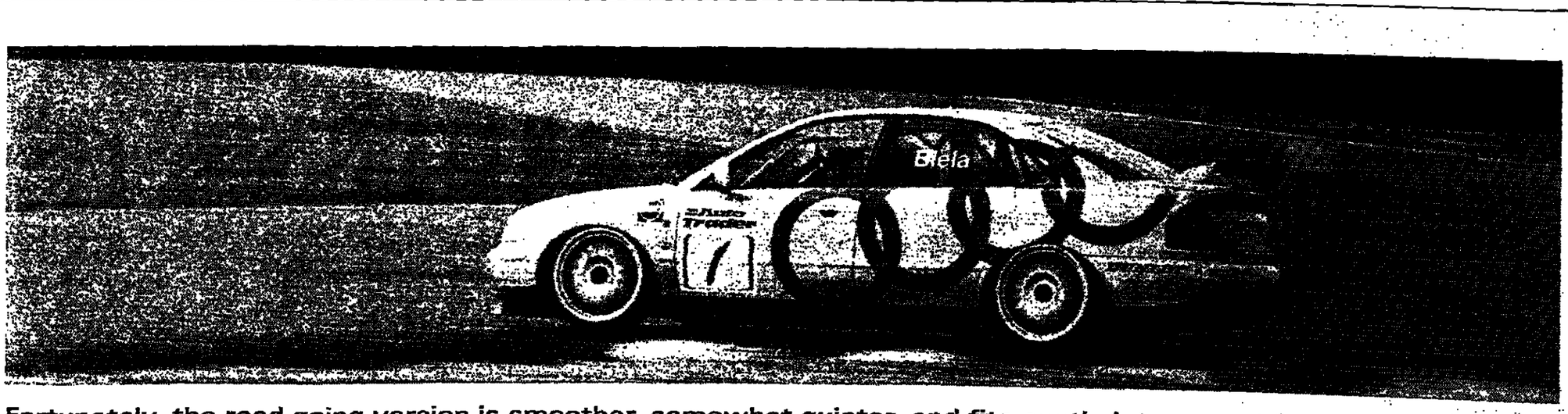
Deep Blue evens score for IBM

New York: While Garry Kasparov fumes after losing to Deep Blue, the creators of the world's best chess-playing computer are getting ready to harvest the commercial rewards of a memorable publicity coup (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

IBM, the machine's makers, have received the kind of fillip from its "man versus technology" chess challenge that makes competitors weep and ad men drool. It is amazing what a win will do. Mr Kasparov's defeat on Sunday, in fewer moves than he has ever lost a match before, was worth more than money to the corporation. Yesterday, precious public praise came from Nathan Myhrvold, the chief technologist at Microsoft, where IBM is often held up to ridicule. He said: "It's an IBM team that did it. My hat is off to them." IBM, which spent an estimated $5 million (£3 million) on this year's rematch — including publicity, prizes and the cost of putting Deep Blue together — has reaped the equivalent of $100 million in free publicity.

Man versus Machine, page 18

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British forces wait for the order to evacuate Kinshasa

Troops are standing by to get the remaining 1,700 British citizens safely out of Zaire if fighting breaks out in the capital, David Orr writes from Kinshasa

A FORMATION of RAF helicopters flying overhead momentarily shatters the silence at the Congolese air force base on the outskirts of Brazzaville, the capital of the Congo. Inside a cavernous hangar, headquarters for Britain's Joint Force in the region, all is businesslike calm. The relaxed air of the operation is, however, deceptive.

The soldiers and airmen are ready to go into action at a moment's notice, should the alarm be sounded across the Congo River in Kinshasa. As rebels advance on the Zairean capital, the British protection force is in constant readiness for the order to scramble. In the event of mayhem breaking out in Kinshasa, it will be the Joint Force's task to evacuate the British community in the city.

"We'll be able to get across the river in about an hour from the time of the alarm going up," the commander of Britain's Joint Force said. "It would be our job to evacuate about 1,700 UK citizens and entitled persons."

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the commander talked freely of the rescue operation — codenamed "Determinant" — which has been in preparation for six weeks. "We would take over the beach by the British Embassy and secure the embassy itself," he said. "The Royal Marines would go in first, followed by soldiers from The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. Other soldiers would fly to secure three other assembly points around the city."

A total of 480 British personnel are on standby in Brazzaville and in Libreville, the capital of Gabon. Two Hercules transport aircraft are based in Libreville and there are two hovercraft, four Puma helicopters and four Rigid Raider speedboats in Brazzaville. The high-speed Raiders can manage the one-mile river crossing in five minutes or less.

American, French and Belgian task forces, operating from the same Congolese air force base, have similar numbers of troops poised to go into action. Portuguese and Italian contingents are also in position.

The commander insisted that his men would be involved in a strictly defensive operation. A British Embassy spokesman confirmed, however, that the task force would be authorised to take all measures necessary to save both their own lives and the lives of those in their charge.

The dependants of most Western nationals have already left the Zairean capital and the city's international schools have closed. Those who remain are, in the words of a British Embassy official, "mostly hardcore businessmen who have substantial financial interests at stake".

The order to evacuate will be given if civilian lives are judged to be in imminent danger. An outbreak of fighting or looting in Kinshasa could lead to the operation being launched. From designated assembly places around the city, evacuees will be taken to a riverside embarkation point and from there to Brazzaville.

"We're looking at a classic helicopter and boat operation," said the Joint Force commander.

"Some of our chaps were involved in the recent Albanian evacuation. The difference there was that everything happened very quickly. We've had plenty of time to prepare ourselves."

The officers and rifle company soldiers living at the Congolese air force base rehearse their strategy every day. Inside the vast hangar, a line of haversacks lies packed and waiting. A hospital has been set up in one corner with operating tables and gleaming medical equipment. From their forward operations base on a sandbar in the river, a unit of Royal Marines sets off upstream on regular exercises in their Rapid Raiders.

For the moment, all is quiet on the streets of Kinshasa. With the Zairean rebels moving ever closer to their goal, however, that mood could quickly turn to panic and violence.

The launching of Operation Determinant might be only days away.



PAUL COWPE

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment train with members of 539 Assault Squadron Royal Marines on the Congo River

UN finds refugees

Nairobi: The United Nations has found another 6,000 sick and dying Rwandan refugees in a camp south of Kisangani, previously sealed off by Laurent Kabila's rebels. Aid workers said more people were emerging from dense forest. Julian Fleet, of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said: "There were corpses lying around the camp, next to where people were cooking and sleeping." *(AP)*



Bugs: "too commercial"

Mail icon bugs US stamp purists

New York: The US Postal Service has been criticised over a 32 cent stamp it has released in honour of Bugs Bunny. "The US Postal Service is sinking to a new low in trivialising its once high-minded stamp programme," huffed Gary Griffith, author of *United States Stamps, 1922-1926*. Pundits believe that the service is in breach of its own rules in allowing the cartoon rabbit, a commercial product owned by Warner Bros, to appear on a stamp.

Nine feared dead in Everest storm

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN WELLINGTON

NINE climbers were missing, believed dead, near the summit of Mount Everest after being caught in a storm, other expeditions reported last night.

Several members of a party from Kazakhstan managed to reach the summit before disaster struck. They were on the northern face, the opposite side to other expeditions now on the world's highest mountain.

Peter O'Conner, leader of the New Zealand expedition, reported from Everest that nine people were missing. According to Radio New Zealand, he said those lost on the 29,028ft mountain included three Kazakhs, three Koreans, a German and a sherpa.

A message on the Internet from Todd Burleson, of Alpine Ascents International, said they believed five people were dead, while another New Zealand expedition, led by Guy Cotter, said seven were missing. Mr Burleson reported the sherpa was swept down the Great Couloir near the summit. He identified the German as Peter Kuwalzik of the German International Mountain Climbing company.

Mr Burleson and Mr Cotter, who were near the summit, said a storm swept in about 660ft below the top of the mountain. Mr Cotter said one of the Kazakhs was lying dead near a tent. "The weather has been clear but we have had severe jetstream winds every day, which is a recipe for disaster," he said. He criticised climbers for trying to reach the summit "when the winds are extremely high and the chances of surviving are quite low".

Six other teams are staying at the 17,622ft base camp until the winds drop. Most climbers seeking to conquer Everest this season are on the southern side, waiting in camp for the storm to clear.

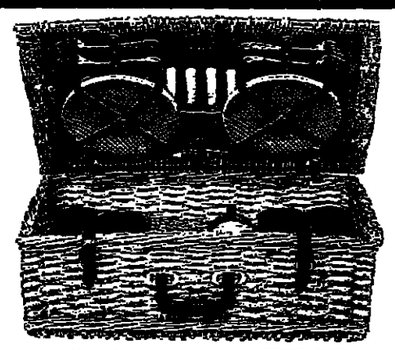


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They're changing, not drowning

In the second part of our series on the problems and opportunities facing women in midlife, the Cambridge social psychologist **Terri Apter** focuses on the four different types of crisis experienced by women as they reach maturity, and argues that each can lead to a successful outcome



THE KOBAL COLLECTION

Family values: traditional women put husband and children first but many complain of feeling "marginal", "small" or "useless" compared with high-profile career women

SECRET PATHS

Women in the new midlife

TRADITIONAL WOMEN

Traditional women are *those who have identified* themselves primarily as wives and mothers and who believe that *their family's needs take priority*. Had they lived in previous generations, these women *would have been typical*. Today, they often feel abnormal and obscured by the high-profile images of the career *woman*.

There were three different points at which the traditional woman's midlife crisis was targeted. The *first* was a woman's identification with a husband's ambition, an identification that silenced her needs — until, at midlife, she acknowledges what she has previously ignored. A second sore point was *the time and energy* a traditional woman had poured into her family. The third target for midlife crisis *was the empty nest: as the* tasks of motherhood became less intense, some women were flooded by a surplus of time, *in which they confronted* a lack of purpose. The emptiness, initially experienced as a *catastrophe, ushered in* awareness of neglected dimensions of themselves.

The crisis for traditional *women occurs within a revolution* of ideas about what women should and could be. Most women *born between* 1939 and 1954 have a fairly strong idea of what a traditional woman's life is like and what a traditional woman *is*: her identity is centred on being a wife and mother. Many women born during these *years fought against this traditional* mould, feeling its pressure, frightened that they were being conditioned or *programmed for a life they did not* want. Women's lives have become so varied that there are now no markers to make one feel "Yes, I'm going along life's path as I should". In previous generations, finding a *boyfriend, getting engaged*, then married, then becoming a mother, marked the rightness of a woman's path. Whatever else a *woman* did — whether she went to college, took a job — these markers showed whether she passed or failed her test for femininity. Now women have no normal life pattern.

It is easier for women of this generation to decide not to marry, not to have children, or to bear children in midlife, to espouse grand ambitions. But *with a woman's greater* freedom comes anxiety about whether she has made the right decision. When we feel *dissatisfied with what we have* done, and other people we identify with or measure ourselves against are all doing *different things, we may think* "Why didn't I do what *she* did?" At different times and in *different ways, all contemporary* women ask this of themselves. For the traditional woman in my sample, this *query could uncover regrets* that had been controlled or denied. This disclosure then allowed them sight of the impediments that took difficult choices out of their control. Awareness of expanding options often makes traditional women feel defensive, and in their defence they often suppress *their dissatisfaction*. Traditional women who did not have careers *knew that many* other women saw them as different, as limited, as inferior. *They spoke about feeling* "marginal" or "small" or "useless" or "foreign" in the presence of professional women. In defence, they labelled career women "selfish". Their battle to feel comfortable in *these roles that were once* considered the soft option gave rise to a continuous internal dialogue, which, in early adulthood, went round in circles, skirting many of their real feelings, which at midlife are addressed directly.

The psychological energy women in their first years of *adulthood employ* to keep their regrets at bay has been repeatedly documented in the past decade. Women who decide, after the birth of children, not to return to work engage in cognitive manoeuvres whereby they minimise both the financial and personal cost of their decisions. The costs of such a decision are too high to admit, so *mental work* is done to make it seem smaller, less drastic. Here often begins the suppression of desires and needs, which stimulates *midlife crisis*.

Virtually all the traditional women I interviewed harboured a sense of themselves as *potential achievers*. "Not a day goes by," Mai said when I first interviewed her at the age of 47, "when I don't think about what I might have achieved, and how that would have felt. I look the part of the *perfect wife and mother, and* it's a part I play with all my heart. But I chose it because I did not see a way of doing *more, which doesn't mean* I didn't want to or don't want to." As midlife struck, women confronted their compromises in bolder ways. First, they acknowledged *those anxiously* suppressed regrets; second, they demanded of themselves how they had failed to see what they had suppressed: *third, they* asked the crisis question, "Why didn't *I* see this *before?*" If they resist these destructive alternatives, they can free themselves *to gain a more confident* perspective. Their new midlife is a turning point away from the wasted energy of suppressed wishes towards an ability to make use of the multi-dimensional self they *now* acknowledge.

> 'Traditional women labelled career women selfish'

SIGNS OF CRISIS:
- *Increasing frustration* with the pressure of others' demands.
- Anger at the inability to focus on one's desires.
- Panic at the distance between how others perceive one and who one really thinks one is.

RESOLUTION
- Gains more control over the extent of one's responsiveness to others' needs.
- Forges a strong link between what one wants and what one decides to do.
- *Connects with that* "unseen" self, often through having more private time.



Achiever: Norma Major

Throwing off the shackles

EXPANSIVE WOMEN

The path through crisis *to a new midlife often* remains unmarked by obvious change. Some women, however, cannot find *their* way ahead without achieving radical changes in their lives. The women in my *sample who felt they had lived* the early years of adulthood in a narrow corridor, confined by a lack of skill or confidence *or self-awareness, saw midlife* as an opportunity to expand their horizons.

For some expansive women *the urge to make radical* changes arises from that midlife assessment during which previous dissatisfactions are confronted. Ready to take charge of their futures and less distracted by the *judgments of others, they* resist the narrowness enforced by limited training or education. Other expansive women see the need to extend their self-knowledge and abolish the fears that have limited *their emotional horizons*.

The need for expansion can also arise from changing circumstances: A divorce may make a woman aware of a narrowness that before she had barely noticed. The expansive women in my sample reviewed their pasts to find the place at which their potential was curtailed. Once found, they moved forward into their new midlife with skills and strength they could never have imagined in their first years of adulthood.

Whether an expansive *woman's crisis was stimulated* by internal or external forces, it followed a similar course. First came the critical realisation of her own impatience with the status quo. This was followed by anxiety as to change. As she begins to take definite steps towards change she often experiences a relief, which releases enormous energy. Hence, she may seem, to others, wild or scatty or irresponsible. Yet such carelessness is superficial. At each point of change, I found the women in my sample asking "How much should I *preserve?*" and "*How much* should I shed?" The crisis is resolved not when she has gained everything she has hoped for, but when she feels confident in her ability to sustain her upward stride.

A woman must confront the sense of inadequacy or incompleteness or dissatisfaction she has been hiding. For, in early adulthood, we try to develop those skills and patterns that make us feel competent. In midlife crisis, we have to turn back to neglected, thwarted themes and try to develop them.

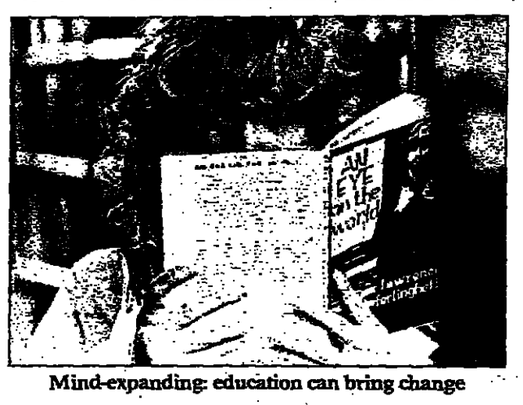
The women who sought radical change were most likely to experience resistance to change from their partners. People who were close to them were used to these women as they once were; many partners felt safer as a woman buried her doubt, and lived with it, without challenging it. Unlike innovative women, whose families learnt over time to accommodate their goals for achievement and self-expansion, these expansive women were opening themselves up in entirely new ways.

Several partners were appalled by these radical changes. Their underlying question was "What will I be for her, if she can be these things for herself?" Some women, seeking to reassure a partner, put their new horizons behind a screen. This compromise was rejected by older women. So often in the women who were over 50 there was a breath of fresh air, something positive and pure.

Eight of the women I interviewed were currently undergoing divorce. A common characteristic among them was the sharp drive towards preserving self-esteem, and the will to survive. Those who clung onto their anger did so productively. Work became not a luxury or a prestigious pastime but, as it is for many women, a necessity.

Divorce is always a crisis. When a midlife woman experiences it, she meets a network of crises. She is primed, anyway, for a crisis of reassessment because the cultural idea of being 40 and no longer young demands new sources of self-esteem.

The distress of women in the process of divorce seems overwhelming, yet their recuperative powers are remarkable. They tend to recover more quickly than men, and are more likely to use this change to stimulate growth.



Mind-expanding: education can bring change

SIGNS OF CRISIS:
- Angry awareness of the unnecessary constraints others impose on one.
- Increasing frustration at one's lack of skills or knowledge.
- Terror of change.

balanced by a terror of stasis.

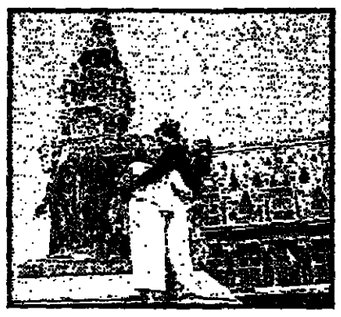
RESOLUTION:
- Resists the pressures of others' views as to what one is or should be.
- Takes steps to expand one's skills and knowledge.
- Is thrilled by the long-neglected experiences of development and change.

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Escape from the boardroom

INNOVATIVE WOMEN

Innovative women have, during the past three decades, ridden high on the crest of the wave of change. These are women who set out to compete in the man's world of work and to gain equal status. Many of them had, at the brink of midlife, attained their goals, and those who had not, still had made significant advances towards them. Yet the women in my sample, who had come so far, were halted by a crisis.

These women pledged their intelligence and ambition towards forging new paths in men's territory. The swings and roundabouts of that social revolution are only now coming into focus. The integration of women's different roles and goals has been much harder than anyone anticipated. Just as young women's expansive ambitions came to life, a new ethos of hard work, consuming work, spread throughout businesses and the professions. Nor have demands on parental time decreased.

For the innovative women in my sample, crisis was stimulated by one of five: often interconnected things: the stress of overwork; a new awareness of an imbalance between professional and personal needs; the pain of prejudice; frustration with ambitions that had been muted or disguised; or the increasingly tense conditions at work. Any of these could be the sore spots exposed by midlife crisis.

When stress about time triggered a woman's crisis, extremely minor hitches — such as being forced to cancel dinner with a friend, or having no time to help a child with a homework assignment — could unleash major questions about what she wanted to do with the rest of her life.

The reassessment triggered at midlife can lead an innovative woman to a new careful tracking of where she is going. At 40, Nan Grodsky, the in-house lawyer for a commercial bank, made a deliberate decision to change the framework of her choices. She decided that she would change, because she did not want to spend the rest of her life alone.

"For 20 years I have either been looking ahead or behind. How do I get there and stay there, and who is the challenge ahead and who is the threat from behind? Now I am looking ahead again, but in a different direction, and the future is empty — no husband, no children, no family of my own. I no longer want to be alone. So I am taking a calculated risk. Maybe, I will miss the next good promotion, But the greatest risk I can take is to keep putting my job first."



Lynne Franks: a new direction

A changing work environment can spur a crisis in innovative women, who may previously have been running on automatic. Corporate roulette, for these women, brings dissatisfaction to the surface and stimulates questions about what they want to do during the next phase of their lives. The innovative women in my sample were often surprised by their willingness to diverge from long-held plans. They were empowered by a new ability to change the blueprints to which they had meticulously referred for all their previous decisions.

The leaner and meaner policies of many corporations make life tough for everyone. Employees have to work harder, under greater pressure both from a sense of competition and a sense of job security. These are precisely the conditions that many women feel unable to work well in. It is an atmosphere that can be highly inefficient, as others try to run alongside every other runner, rather than find their own means to their own ends. When women see themselves as having the choice, they cannot see the point. Herein, a crisis enters for many innovative women, as they refuse to follow the old ideals of what it is to be a career person, and they forge new paths through their futures.

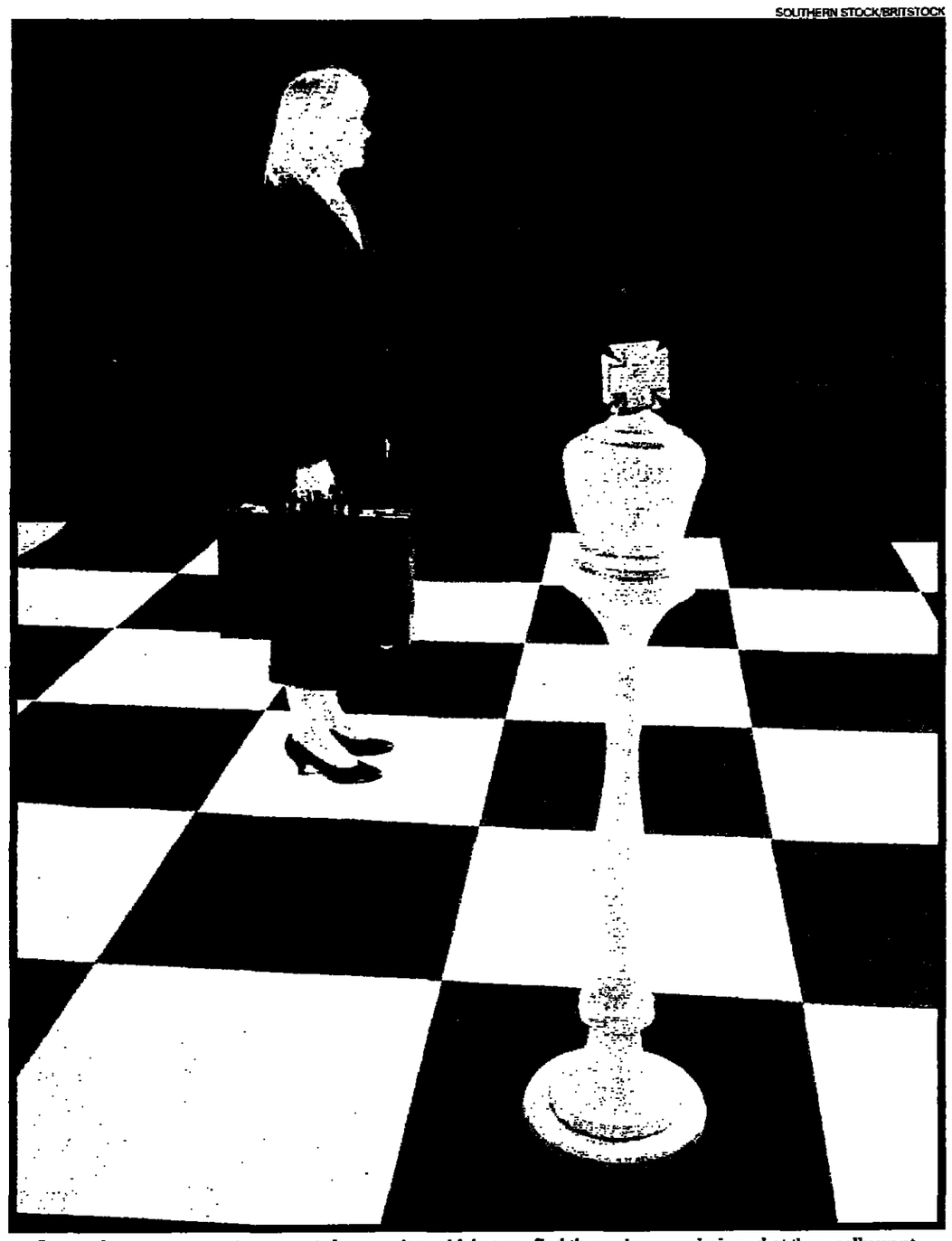
The innovative women who did stay on in an aggressive working atmosphere were guided by a mission to show that they could perform well under pressure. These women gained power through their ability to influence the male preserve and they felt that in their new midlife they were taking on the responsibility to transform their working environment — either by finding different work or by changing their current workplace.

As she learns to speak anew, the innovative woman in midlife can change more than she dreamt of in her youth. As she redefines her own goals, she leaves behind both the male ideal of the career person and the image of the superwoman who finds that magical spot in which everything can be achieved and nothing sacrificed. As she confronts, in her midlife crisis, the discomfort of the male preserve and the impossibility of a life without any compromises whatsoever, she gains new control over the compromises that she makes.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:
- Sudden pangs of doubt as to the value of long-held ambitions.
- Panic as one sees that guilt about the rejection of traditional feminine roles has not been resolved.
- Feels trapped by one's own compulsion to control the contradictory pressures between career and personal life.

RESOLUTION:
- Goals are reassessed, usually with a shift in emphasis, rather than a complete reversal.
- Feminine roles and characteristics are redefined, and those that are valued are accepted with a highly individual slant.
- The setting in which one pursues one's goals is transformed so that goals are now pursued on one's own terms.

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Innovative women set out to compete in a man's world, but can find themselves wondering what they really want

REX FEATURES



Cher: waging war against the onset of midlife

'I'm 40, and old enough for anything'

PROTESTING WOMEN

There were some women in my sample who waged a war against age. Feeling they still had "all too much to do", they protested against midlife, insisting they were not prepared for it — not yet, not when they had had so little time to be young.

Protesting women had been catapulted into premature adulthood — by the death of a parent, by the demands of poverty, or by an early pregnancy. Having been forced to behave responsibly, sensibly and consistently at a very early age, these women, at midlife, wanted to reach back and grow into the youth they never had.

Protesting women tend to have a strong need to express their individuality. They feel proud of their abilities and confident of their potential, but have been unable to harness their strengths. Some setback or necessity had prohibited them from exercising their taste for spontaneity and adventure. However much they had actually achieved, they felt that they had not done enough, or not precisely what would satisfy them. These women were, at the onset of crisis, keenly aware of a potential history that was parallel to their actual history. They felt closely shadowed by what they might have been, what circumstances had deprived them of being. Midlife crisis involved a weathering of panic and despair lest the qualities that had been put in cold storage were lost forever. It was resolved as these women learnt again to be spontaneous — as a youthful, midlife woman.

> 'I felt like nothing was ever going to happen to me again'

Ellen Samuel had left school at 16 to help to maintain her father's motel as his health deteriorated. Monica Selleck became a mother when she was 16. Throughout early adulthood, each had proved themselves capable and competent. Aware that they had missed out on much of the freedom of late adolescence and the experimental stages of adult life, they looked on their peers as inhabiting a different world, filled with golden opportunities and magical chances. As the gates of youth slammed shut in their faces, they made strong, sensible decisions and held their heads high; but they felt a stab of regret at having missed out.

These women protested at the passing of time because they feared the final loss of the youth they never truly had. "All my life I've been too young to do what I do," Ellen said. "Now I'm 40, and old enough for anything. It's hit me that I want everything I didn't have earlier — all the chances, all the choices. And I want it now."

At 42, Monica experienced a resurgence of both hope and hopelessness. "I felt like nothing was ever going to happen to me again. There was only this underwater feeling. Then finally that idea . . . walking to work, waiting for the bus . . . nothing's going to happen, and the sense that only you are going to stop yourself turning into that old woman nothing happened to. Turning 40 sent me into a panic because I knew it had to be now or never, but I could not see how to make it happen."

Protesting women's desires were intense and vague: Where would their extravagant hopefulness bring them? Four years after the interview sessions, these protesting women seemed transformed. Their gestures were broader, their voices louder and they seemed continually excited. In their newly won spontaneity, protesting women often became "difficult" women — judged to be too loud, too sexual, too assertive. They read others' judgments of them with mingled disregard and pride. Their own lack of concern for others' views increased their confidence as they experienced, again, their newfound freedom.

The war that protesting women waged against midlife was not a war against change. The needs of these women were not for stasis, or for turning back the clock, but for finding ways forward. These women found new "selfish" strength and control, as they, in their new midlife, grew into the youthful exuberance they had once left behind.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:
- Panic that youth is passing before it has been experienced as youth.
- Longs to act irresponsibly, for a change, yet fears that one's desires are dangerous.
- Overwhelmed by long-suppressed feelings of regret, anger and lack of confidence.

RESOLUTION:
- Sees maturity as a door to new opportunities.
- Exercises spontaneity in daily life without threatening one's wellbeing.
- Retrieves past desires and goals, and refashions them for current use.

● *Secret Paths will be published by W.W. Norton on Thursday, price £9.95*

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The chess world goes to pieces

Tunku Varadarajan watches

Deep Blue crush Kasparov

He lost. It won. By now, only someone as out of touch with earthly events as a rainforest tribe or an American juror would fail to know what I'm talking about. So effectively has chess colonised our consciousness these past few days that it might be said, with scant exaggeration, that the six-game challenge series between Garry Kasparov and Deep Blue has entered the pantheon of history's great battles: Thermopylae, Actium, Hastings, Waterloo, El Alamein . . . and now the New York Equitable Center.

I watched most of the games between the brooding Russian worlock and the improbably named computer. I saw Kasparov "shamed", as he described defeat in his self-flagellating post-match press conference. I applauded the men who built the computer which disposed so gelidly of the best chess player ever born to a mother.

The chess was gripping. Not since Ian Botham single-handedly took on the Australians in the 1981 Ashes series, and defeated them, have I been so enthralled by a sporting event. At the risk of offending chess puritans — those purists of the most prickly strain — Kasparov is the Botham of the chess world. That, perhaps, is why he lost to Deep Blue.

The Russian loves to mix it. His style of play is a unique blend of bullying and brain. He glowers. He looks black. He sniggers at mistakes. He stares, with his profound Armenian eyes, into the soul of the opponent before him. He is the master of the psychological sucker-punch, the bluffer's knockout. It was these qualities, allied to his ability to calculate up to three moves per second, that helped him to demolish Nigel Short and, more recently, his Indian challenger "Vishy" Anand.

Not so Deep Blue, of course. How do you bully a 6ft computer that looks like a music amplifier? Kasparov displayed the full range of his body language in the first game, as if by instinct, but made no impression. The Chinaman from IBM who had been selected to make the computer's moves was the wrong target. He was probably thinking about his dinner as Kasparov growled at him — or about his wife.

The Russian lost. "Man", as some overheated observers would have it, lost too. But Deep Blue's victory was also a victory for "man". Who, after all, made the damned thing? Who programmed it, tweaked it, fed it with data? Man, of course.

The chess was very real. Let no one — not even Kasparov — tell you otherwise. Anyone who was at the Equitable Center — a plate-glass, sky-scraping confection on 52nd Street and 7th Avenue — will remember the event primarily for its chess. Every day, 450 spectators (yes, many of them in anoraks) followed the game on closed-circuit television, with running commentary provided by a silver-tongued team of international masters.

It was akin to a cerebral cock-fight. Watchers whooped, clapped, whistled, gasped, cheered and groaned as Kasparov fought it out with a machine that can calculate up to a billion positions per second. People ate popcorn, drank fizzy drinks, chatted and explained the finer points to their children.

Many of those attending tapped the game assiduously into their own laptop computers. Others, however, scribbled like fury into that stubborn survivor from another age — the notebook. In the press room, where analysis and argument were as intense as the furrow on Kasparov's brow, Russian journalists jostled with New York's own bruisers for use of the telephone lines, plug points and a better view of the television monitor. A Spanish journalist and a French cameraman nearly came to blows over the chair with the best view, and British journalists could be heard asking the waitresses if there was any wine. There wasn't.

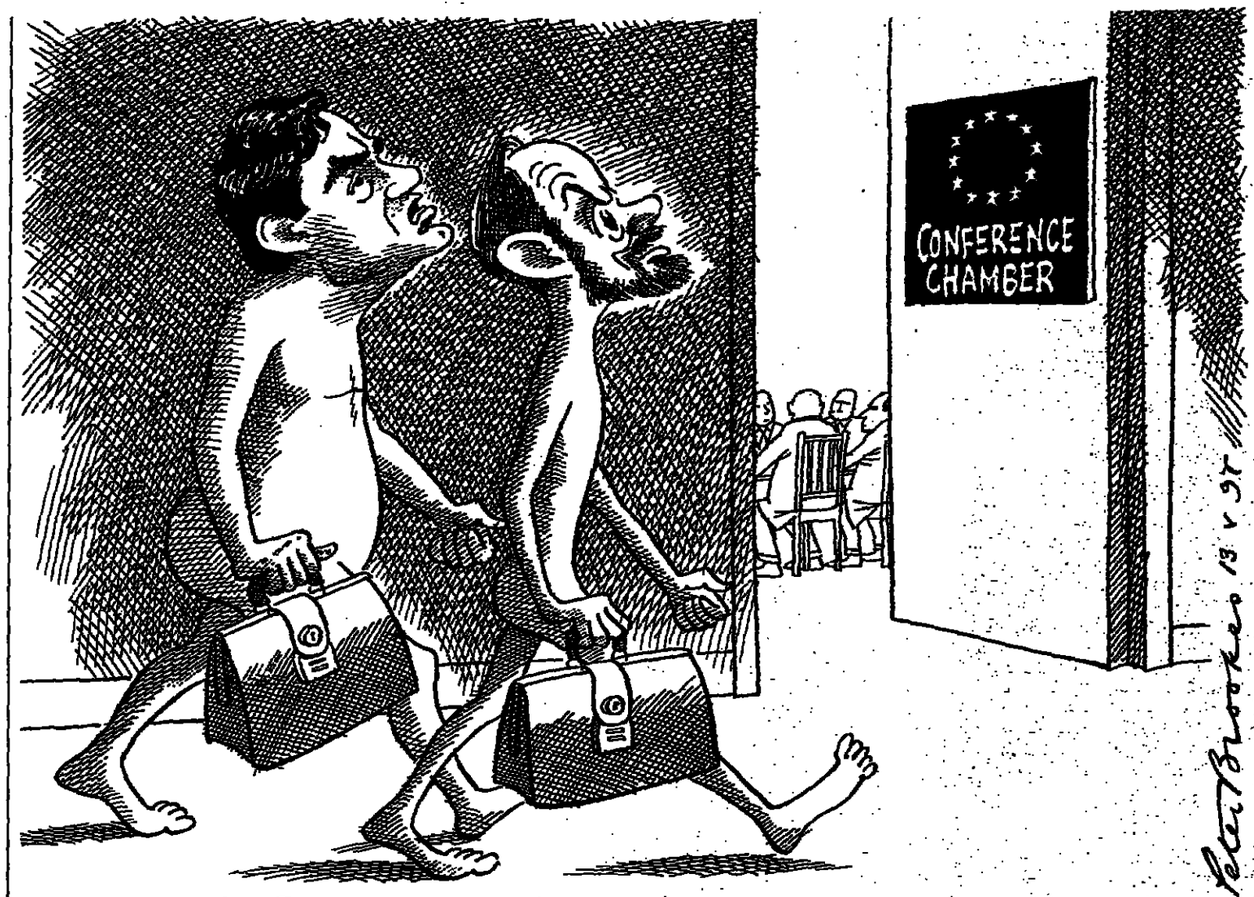
It was a very human scene and a very human contest. Kasparov certainly behaved like a man after he lost, fuming a bit and blaming IBM for playing tricks on him. There is much of modern Russia in him: not for him the monosyllabic impenetrability of the old Soviet champions, whose post-match commentary was confined to "da" or "nyet". Kasparov is a mercurial citizen of a mercurial society, reflecting in his temperament all of Russia's fears, paranoias, ambitions and yearning for greatness.

> An ancient game now flutters in the wind of innovation

Will he, with time, absorb his loss? Are there reserves of phlegm behind his new despair? The chess world must hope so, for it would be a tragedy if he were now to be disorientated forever. Chess pundits present feared that Sunday's defeat, in which Deep Blue crushed him in 19 blistering moves, might have softened Kasparov to such an extent that his next human challenger will find him much easier to beat.

But let us not speculate. Let us not be absurd, either, in our reaction to Deep Blue. Kasparov, in his post-match performance, came dangerously close to being the Ned Ludd of the chess world. Certainly, his reference to "machine", without the article — as in "I played machine today" or "I did not expect machine to move so creatively" — appeared to carry the seeds of resentment.

Deep Blue is not the megabyte Spinning Jenny of the late 20th century. It is just a very fine computer. Kasparov lost to it. He will, probably, lose to it again. Some of the machine's gambits were so new that they can only have enriched the repertoire of the chess players who watched. A game played for more than a thousand years now flutters in the fresh wind of innovation. There is no shame in that, Mr Kasparov.



Boys need watching

Without a kind but firm framework of adult control, young males can be fiends

Libby Purves

When my son was born, a card arrived from an old schoolfriend who had several. "Congratulations", it said. "I like to hear about other people having boys. I somehow feel the load is being spread." This was puzzling: for one thing, my generation insisted that there is no inherent difference between boys and girls, only social conditioning curable by giving the boys toy Hoovers and the girls Meccano. What "load" did my friend mean? Why did it need spreading? Fourteen years on, I understand her perfectly. My own son, of course, is faultless, but the more time I spend among schoolchildren the more convinced I am that the raising of boys presents a special challenge. Judging by the news, it is not a challenge we are meeting.

Take the alleged gang-rape of a girl by five boys aged nine and ten in a school lunchbreak — an attack followed by stories from other parents of boys regularly harassing girls and pulling down their knickers. In the same week, three boys of 13 in Leicestershire and three more in Wolverhampton were questioned about similar sexual assaults. Add to this the gang-rape of an Austrian tourist, the usual reports of stabbings and fights, and the striking story in my local paper of a cherubic 11-year-old who admitted setting fire to a petrol station with the owner inside. He was too small to see over the edge of the dock.

Awful indeed: but any parent, teacher, or hostess of growing boys must in honesty recognise a thread which links these dangerous children to the ones they know and love. Boys are explosive when combined, and mothers grow used to horrid transformations. That kind, sensible little lad practising Grade 1 violin may within the hour be on the shed roof with three good friends, throwing tiles down at a fourth; or on the pavement, scattering elderly shoppers like chaff as he pursues the ultimate fish-brain double-flip reverse-grind manoeuvre on his inline skates. Boys need watching. They always did.

Their sisters can be foul too, of course: but some biological quirk decrees that when little girls form a clump in the playground, it is usually to talk about best friends or ponies or feelings or secrets, rather than how to drop concrete off railway bridges. Girls' T-shirts bear pictures of furry animals; boys' have slogans like "If you're not living on the edge you're taking up too much space". An unhappy girl punishes her own body with anorexia; an unhappy boy punishes the world with half-bricks. A girl in turmoil runs up phone bills, but when boyish adventurousness and bravery turn sour, phones are ripped out. Even at the simplest domestic level, if you hire a bouncy castle for two childrens' parties, the girls will dance around sociably and reveal their dark side only in catty remarks about Layla's new leggings, whereas the boys will climb on the plastic roof and fall through, or disconnect the inflator with their friends still inside. They can hardly help themselves. These things just come over them.

Unless they are properly supervised. Supervising boys is hard work: it involves constant nagging, pulling-up and dressing-down, isolating pests and helping them to see other people's points of view, spotting the victim and the victimiser almost before they themselves know which is which. It involves channelling vast physical energy into permissible physical skills. It needs vigilance, patience, humour and a genuine affection for boy nature. Shrill fussiness does not work, and nor does a grudging, primitive feminist distaste for all things masculine.

Some women youth leaders can fill this need, but it is easier for a man to exude the right mixture of example, firmness and empathy. Such leaders have been neglected and undervalued lately, not least because more energy is put into witch-hunts for potential "abusers" than into encouraging men to lead boys. Youth movements including the Scouts suffer shortages as a result, just as male primary school teachers are an endangered species. This is the first mistake we have made: not recognising that boys need men.

Another mistake is to concentrate on exotic crimes instead of their commonplace roots. When children rape, we pontificate about premature sexualisation and the bad influence of television. True, our arts and entertainments are obsessed with sexual violence, and parents are lazy about censorship. Even if this led only to consensual pulling-down of knickers in the playground, it would be deplorable. But the striking thing about recent incidents is not the acted-out sex, but the real brutality. The terror and pleading of the victim meant less to these boys than their gang identity. Psychiatrists may say that some of the perpetrators were victims of sexual abuse themselves, but they can't all have been: the really significant thing is that when boys follow a damaged, angry ringleader, they find it easier to feel linked to him and the gang than to the adult world of decent behaviour. This is not a horror story about under-age sex, it is a horror story about the blind violence of boys who have not had civilised values painstakingly inculcated. It is not *Lolita*, it is *Lord of the Flies*.

But in William Golding's story, there were no adults on the desert island. Whereas we are here, hands in pockets, watching these children grow up. If they are brutal, it is because we let them be.

Admittedly, a lot of the damage is done out of sight by parents who have no idea how to combine love and reproof. But society is not much help. It fails to provide communal supervised playing space, sporting facilities and leadership. It takes over a year to give a first psychiatric appointment to a disturbed child, by which time the damage has been cubed; it organises social work so badly that even those who know perfectly well that a family is terrible can do nothing about it.

When the damaged boy arrives at school and gathers a gang around him, he may still not be helped to connect to decent values. School structures and staffing deny that the social development of children is as important as maths. Most playgrounds are supervised not by teachers but by lay helpers; some are excellent, but for that money they can't all be. Some are weak, even frightened. Why else did nobody notice boys, *en masse*, going into a girls' toilet?

Moreover, when parents complain about playground incidents, their worries are often belittled — and not only in stressed state schools. Our culture embraces a curious fatalistic Darwinism about children, and even very prestigious schools are capable of shrugging: "They find their own level" or "We try not to interfere". But we *should* interfere: child rule — specifically boy rule — is dangerous. Most cultures know that, and it is actually more "natural" for children to be seen as apprentice adults under training than for them to "find their own level".

After school hours, the gang is on the streets. It has to be, there is sparse funding for the kind of boys' clubs that used to soak up their communal energies with table-tennis and boxing and rowing in the docks. They find the police cautious, the courts impotent, and adult passers-by nervously averting their eyes. Ever more disconnected from normal values, the boys behave worse and worse until they are old enough for prison. Then the game is really up.

What these children need is not vindictive punishment, but education in the widest sense. They need a constant, painstaking input of remonstrance and interest, example and distraction: a kind but unremitting framework of adult control. Jack Straw's new proposal to make them undertake physical reparation for crimes is a good one. It could work, if real energy and human resource were put into it. Sadly, probation officers are already pouring cold water on it; but then perhaps their experience at the sharp end has made them cynical.

Perhaps they suspect from long experience that nobody will provide the money to pay good people to supervise these educational sentences. Perhaps they foresee that the Government will cave in and run for cover at the first maudlin interview and compensation claim from a plausibly distraught mother who says her sweet ten-year-old was called a rude name by an unsympathetic enforcement officer and forced to pick up unhygienic litter. Let us hope that they are wrong.

Is Blair's Tory party up to it?

Woodrow Wyatt

reviews Labour's first ten days

It was a landslide in seats but not in votes. The jubilation of the Blairites was not shared by the majority of the nation. Seven per cent fewer voted than in 1992, when Major won with a larger vote than Blair did on May 1. Or put it another way: Blair achieved slightly under 45 per cent of those voting, just one point higher than when Ted Heath won narrowly in 1970. Theoretically it should be well within the reach of the Tories to win an overall majority at the next election, despite the increase in Liberal Democrat seats from 20 to 46. When Labour does well, so do the oddities, such as Sinn Fein in Northern Ireland. Even the Scottish Nationalist Party doubled the number of its MPs. When Labour is routed the minnows are too.

Whether that theory will be dented depends, now that the Tories have been dismissed, upon how intelligently power is used by the alternative Tory party, which is how new Labour presented itself. If it shows itself more competent and radical (that is, Thatcherite) than the defeated Tories, new Labour could be in for ten years. Clement Attlee used to say that a new government should do the unpopular things first so that they would be forgotten by the next election. Gordon Brown promptly put up interest rates, with hints of more to come. Middle-class mortgagors found that the larger banks and building societies had added to Brown's increase.

Doubtless the coming Budget will contain some unpleasant surprises, with tax increases by any name other than income tax. Further interest-rate increases, or reductions, will now be determined by the Bank of England, deflecting criticism from the Government. This is an amazing abdication of responsibility by politicians, who should have retained this essential instrument of the economy and been prepared to take the blame if they were shown to have misused it.

When the Bank of England last had this immense power, before the war, Montagu Norman was the Governor. In January 1925 he put us back on the gold standard: it was the prime cause of a savage recession and of the most crippling and cruel unemployment of modern times, with its harrowing means-test for unemployment benefit. Already, this Labour Government has charged in to accept the EU's social chapter, which will inevitably lead to a sharp rise in unemployment. However, Mr Major left so strong a growing economy that it could take the alternative Tory party a few years to destroy it.

Meanwhile, some immediate actions of the Blair administration can be applauded. There is the reversal of Neil Kinnock's pledge to send back to Athens the Marbles rescued from Turkish destruction by Lord Elgin. Remaining in the British Museum they will certainly be more carefully preserved than they would in volatile Athens, and they will probably be seen by millions more people.

Making Frank Field number two (or is it number one?) at the social security department, to guide the hapless Harriet Harman, is a masterstroke. Frank Field immediately recognised the virtues of Peter Lilley's plan for a gradual move into compulsory and properly funded private pension schemes. He said so, as far as he dared with Peter Mandelson looking over his shoulder, just before the election. New Labour has been short of worthwhile new ideas; it is wise of Mr Blair to recognise that Mr Field has the brains to learn from the powerful intellect that produced the Conservative scheme, which in its way is a 21st-century version of the Beveridge Plan. And Mr Field will, of course, continue the effective drive against benefit frauds so well begun by Mr Lilley, who has the most penetrating brain in the Commons.

Another creditable initiative is Jack Straw's proposal to make young offenders apologise to and repair the damage done to their victims, with the addition of some public humiliation. It may be a little like being put in the stocks, but that apparently worked well for many centuries.

There will be duds in the Government, such as Gordon Brown, who has a worrying incapacity to add up. (Alec Douglas-Home did it better with his famous box of matches in 1963-64.) The unreconstructed not-yet-Tory Margaret Beckett at the Department of Trade will be driven by her prejudice against profit to wreak mayhem in our commerce and industry until she is removed. And it will not be long before we see an eruption from John Prescott, whom I rather like, as we did from the not dissimilar George Brown.

Much turns on whom the tattered Tories choose as their leader. Michael Howard will never capture the public heart; there is something peculiar about young William Hague, who is anyway too young; clever John Redwood blew his chance when he stood against John Major; Kenneth Clarke lost out through his disloyalty to Mr Major during the election campaign; Stephen Dorrell is bright but prone to blunders. Peter Lilley, on the other hand, has the potential and the time to mature impressively. The Tories could do worse than to give this polite but tough debater a chance to prove himself.

Knot to be

THERE is terrible unrest betwixt parish and provost in the London borough of Southwark. On one side are the Shakespeare and heritage buffs who have arrived with the restored Globe Theatre. On the other are the effete yet steely authorities of Southwark Cathedral.

The trouble started when Lady Renouf, a social hurricane on the advisory board of the Globe, drew up plans for an Elizabethan knot-garden on a disused site outside the theatre. After several months of canapé-serving, she had raised £30,000 in sponsorship and was all set to get knotting.

Enter the Very Rev Colin Slee, the Provost of Southwark, who approached the council to stop the garden. Too close to his own front porch, he claims. "He says that people will be able to see into his windows from the garden," says Lady Renouf. "It is so bloody-minded of him. Why can't he just put up net curtains like anyone else?" It gets worse. "He treats it like his back yard," says Lady Renouf. "He often parks his car there, and has even put up a gate so that the public think it's private land."

So strained have relations become between the two, that Mr Slee has written to the council attacking Lady Renouf in person. "He told them that I couldn't work in a team, and that if there had to be a garden, Lady Salisbury would be the better person to design it."

At the cathedral, Mr Slee is confident of victory. "There will be no knot-garden," he growls, before putting down the phone.



"So you say you're Neil and Christine Hamilton, knife-throwing act . . ."

THE TIMES DIARY

● *Lingering effects of the recession have forced Michael Parkinson and Sir Tim Rice out of publishing. They have just sold their company, Pavilion Books, to C & B Publishing plc. The pair resigned as directors of Pavilion last Friday. The decline in the whole coffee-table book sector was blamed.*

Cut price

CHRIS EVANS, the television presenter, has just bought a house in Arundel Gardens in Notting Hill for £1.6 million. He will be just down the road from his girlfriend, Suzy Aplin, who lives in Kensington Park Road. Others within shouting distance include the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, Damon Albarn of Blur and the writer John Mortimer. If Evans feels the need to talk television, the political documentary-maker Michael Cockerell is just next door.

Evans had agreed £1.4 million with the vendor, but then insisted on absolute secrecy about the purchase. That will be an extra £200,000, said the seller. Evans swiftly agreed to the deal, which, I am delighted to say, has been stuck to absolutely.

Nurb this

AN intriguing death notice appeared in yesterday's *Guardian*: "Morris, Christopher, 5/9/65 to 2/5/97. Of 56 Nurb Street, London.



Chris Evans and Aplin

● *With his political career in reverse, Michael Portillo has been therapy shopping. The former Defence Secretary was sighted down Jermyn Street the other day, where he eschewed the more old-fashioned outlets in favour of the noisier City-boy atmosphere of Thomas Pink. According to one onlooker, he spent some time longingly fingering a shirt in a fuschia Prince of Wales check, before reluctantly going for something more sober and a tie to match.*

Italian job

IT'S CHEERS all round in the gem-smuggling community, with news that Darius Guppy, his wife Patricia and their three-year-old daughter Isabella have left Britain. Loving son of Alfred and Gloria. After his glorious student years at Bristol he went on to a varied broadcasting career before consumption ailed his later years. A good friend, he will be sorely missed."

There is no Nurb Street in London. Could *The Guardian* have been conned by Chris Morris, the comedian and satirist responsible for the recent Channel 4 series *Brass Eye*? "Suddenly it all becomes clear," said a gloomy *Guardian* obituarist.



The Guppys with Spencer

Since his release from chokey, Guppy has been living in a five-bedroom house at Althorp, the Northamptonshire estate of his best friend and best man, Earl Spencer.

The entrepreneurial Earl, however, has been developing his estate, turning disused farm buildings into housing. The barn next to chez Guppy was said to be next on the redevelopment list. Guppy and family are currently on the road somewhere in Italy, where I hear they are looking for a permanent home.

P·H·S

HORIZON TOUR

The ups and downs of a moral foreign policy

A celebrated Churchillian demand for policy guidance began, "Pray let me have, on not more than half a sheet of paper . . .". The terseness of the foreign policy "mission statement" Robin Cook unveiled yesterday would have marked out the new Foreign Secretary as Churchill's ideal civil servant. The difference is that in this case, it is a minister acting the model functionary.

Mr Cook presents this document as a new departure, arguing that every modern business has mission statements and that to produce one for the Foreign Office, therefore, underlines Labour's "businesslike approach". Behind this presentational fanfare, the more prosaic truth is that every year, the thick annual Foreign Office report is prefaced by a summary of its mission, aims and objectives. Nothing could be more natural than for Mr Cook to want to insert his own version into the current edition.

Mr Cook's main purpose is to raise the profile of four facets of foreign policy: promoting human rights, restrictions on arms sales, protecting the global environment, and combating poverty directly rather than relying on promoting sustainable economic growth and open markets. Labour is anxious to set a new tone; on human rights and arms sales, the shift is substantial. Labour's human rights agenda is more ambitious than any since that of the Carter Administration in 1976; and like President Carter's is likely to prove easier to enunciate as a general principle than to implement with any degree of consistency.

It is to Mr Cook's credit that instead of dismissing the public's desire to do something to help when confronted by disasters or atrocities elsewhere as "the CNN factor", as Douglas Hurd used to do, he believes that we are all witnesses in today's world and "are therefore obliged to accept moral responsibility for our response". There is merit in adopting the American practice of an annual report on Britain's work in promoting human rights abroad. But the stronger the principled commitment to human rights, the greater the risk of being pilloried for double standards.

Arms control presents similar problems. Britain is one of the four biggest arms exporters in the world — and Labour is committed to a strong UK defence industry as "a strategic part of our industrial base". Contracts with Saudi Arabia or Indonesia could, however, fall foul of Labour's statement that it will not issue arms export licences "to regimes that might use them for internal repression". Faced with this policy, coupled with instructions to promote human rights forcefully, but told to make "maximum use of our overseas posts to promote trade abroad and boost jobs at home", the natural reflex of British ambassadors must be to wire home for clarification. What balance is to be struck between concern for moral standards and Britain plc?

The first thing they will get back is a 10-minute documentary, to be produced by Sir David Puttnam, which Mr Cook's aides say will "give the flavour of the new Government's thinking". Eagerly as this will no doubt be scrutinised, at some point the new Labour foreign policy will have to progress beyond film scripts.

Omissions, in any broadbrush statement of objectives, are often the most illuminating clues; they reveal what problems are not keeping a minister awake. In Labour's world, the Commonwealth looms large; but it is the uncertain developments in another more evanescent commonwealth, the group of countries that once made up the former Soviet Union, that are most likely to determine whether the European continent is a peaceful and prosperous base for Britain and British foreign policy. Mr Cook has toured the far horizons. The fateful Nato summit on enlargement next month is closer to home and closer to Britain's vital interests. It is to this early test of Labour that Mr Cook should turn, in detail, in Thursday's debate on the Queen's Speech.

NEW LOTTERY

Camelot's lucky numbers are up

The ink is not even dry on the Queen's Speech but already lottery awards have a new flavour of "the many not the few". Yesterday, the Arts Council announced £8 million in grants in its Arts for Everyone scheme for 2,000 amateur recipients ranging from mural artists to acrobats. Chris Smith, the new National Heritage Secretary, will doubtless be pleased to see that nearly £7 million of the money went outside London. If the Churchill papers and the Royal Opera House summed up what for him was wrong with the lottery, this latest disbursement has a very new Labour look.

But it will not be enough for the grant-making bodies simply to adjust their sights in a more democratic or populist direction. Much more about the lottery needs to be reformed. Any new institution as large as the National Lottery was bound to have flaws which needed to be put right after its first few years. Unfortunately the Conservative Government was not prepared to take the necessary action, seeing it as a reflection on its overall competence. The result is that people feel at best ambivalent about the lottery. Labour has a chance to bring it closer to the nation's heart.

First the Government has to address the issue of regulation. Peter Davis, the Director-General of Oflot, well deserves the epithets of "dilatory", "unimaginative" and showing "serious lack of judgment" which were thrown at him by members of the Public Accounts Committee. Virginia Bottomley did not have the nerve to replace him. Mr Smith should.

At the same time, he should redesign the regulator's role. The same person should not be choosing the lottery operator, maximising the revenue for good causes (and hence the profit to the operator), and ensuring the efficiency and probity of the operation. There are too many potential conflicts of interest residing in this job description.

When Camelot's contract runs out in 2001, Labour aims to move to a not-for-profit lottery operator. This would be an admirable reform, providing new money for good causes, as long as the operator could run the lottery as efficiently as Camelot did. In the meantime, Mr Smith should make Camelot's accounts more transparent and close the loophole that allows it to keep the interest on unclaimed prize money.

But it is Labour's plans for the proceeds of the Wednesday draw that best capture the mood of change. Its ideas include training middle-aged teachers to use computers, putting health and fitness centres on high streets, and setting up a national network of after-school clubs. Care will be needed here. Unless ministers ensure that they are at arm's length from the board that chooses the causes, the Treasury will shunt all their pet schemes in health and education to the lottery to fund. But change is needed too.

By the turn of century, barely a town or village in Britain will be untouched by monuments to the lottery. In the meantime, public disillusionment with the lottery has set in after a euphoric start. If the Government manages to make its operation more transparent and less profitable to the operator, the public might even stop worrying and learn to love the lottery. Labour then would reap the rewards of one of John Major's best ideas.

SUIT YOURSELF

Informality does not always put others at ease

It is not only the Bank of England which has been liberated by the new Government; so has the ministerial Adam's apple. Informality, of dress and address, are the mark of the moderniser. Tony Blair attends church in open-necked shirt and uses Christian names behind the Cabinet's closed doors. His Chancellor has struck another blow against stuffiness by letting it be known he will deliver his Mansion House speech next month without the customary tight white collar. There is a certain appeal in politicians fresh to office avoiding the pomposity of power. But there may be new perils too.

Although the use of Christian names in social, or business, situations is intended to put one at ease, it can all too often introduce additional insecurity. For the overburdened minister or under-briefed journalist a simple "Hello Ambassador" or "Good Evening, Secretary of State" can disguise the fact one has completely forgotten, indeed perhaps never knew, the dear man's name. In the Commons the formula that forces members to refer to their "honourable friends", even though the individual concerned might be a contemptible bounder, may seem a self-conscious archaism. It is, however, not only a tradition of charm, it aids the amnesiac, acts as a reminder to MPs of their constituency connection and can help prevent argument descending into personal abuse.

Around the Cabinet table the abandonment of titles could also, far from making ministers more relaxed, lead to poorer relations. Dissent could until recently be directed at the individual's office rather than his or her person. It is the Home Secretary who says, "you are quite wrong there, Chancellor", who can more easily afterwards ask "fancy a drink, Ken?". To dissolve the division between individual and minister could be dangerous. When the figure in error is no longer the Secretary of State but your old ally Ron, a protective layer of civility has gone and an argument in the Cabinet Room can descend from boxing match to brawl.

Outside the intimacy of the Cabinet Room, the new informality could also cause problems. What signal does it send to the children whom David Blunkett would like to see in uniform if the dress code for dinner is ignored by Gordon Brown? How does Jack Straw's wise recognition that good behaviour springs from respect for communal values square with the Chancellor's flouting of the Square Mile's tribal customs?

Mr Brown insists on "working clothes" for his official engagement. Perhaps the Chiefs of the General Staff should negotiate their next settlement in full battledress with pistols cocked to show that they too "mean business". After all, Mr Brown's informality is not intended to put his hosts at ease, but to remind them who is boss. As fashion statements go, Mr Brown is simply saying "we are the masters now". The City should be suspicious of the real meaning behind the Chancellor's new clothes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Shell's duties to its shareholders

From Sir Geoffrey Chandler, Chairof the Amnesty International UK Business Group

Sir, At the Shell Transport and Trading's annual general meeting on May 14 a group of shareholders will put a resolution asking for the identification of a director with explicit responsibility for environmental and social policies and for the external audit of such policies. If accepted, this would be the logical implementation of Shell's recently expressed support for human rights (see letter, November 26, 1996) and of its commitment to the highest environmental standards in its operations.

Yet the directors unanimously recommend that the resolution be rejected on the ground that these matters are their responsibility.

The Brent Spar episode and Shell's refusal to join the worldwide condemnation of human rights violations in Nigeria severely damaged the company's reputation. As a result of external pressure and internal reflection the company changed its views. Acknowledging a failure to keep pace with society's expectations, support for fundamental human rights was for the first time included in the company's statement of general business principles earlier this year (report, March 17).

This was greatly to be welcomed. Shell is the first major transnational corporation to do this and offers an example to others. But words need implementation. A critical world, which has long demanded external audit of financial matters, is increasingly seeking similar witness to environmental and social performance which is today inextricably linked to the financial "bottom line".

The matter raises wider issues of corporate governance and of the role of the shareholders in seeking improved performance. In a world where economic development is increasingly in the hands of the transnational corporations, their operations will be a force for good only to the extent that moral criteria are added to the economic criteria which dictate their practice and policies.

If the board wins, it will diminish Shell's reputation and credibility, and dismay staff and friends of the company who will be left with the task of defending the indefensible.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,
Chair, Amnesty International UK Business Group,
99-119 Rosebery Avenue, EC1.
May 11.

Brown's Budget

From Mr G. A. P. Leigh-Pollitt

Sir, I was dismayed to read that the Chancellor is considering the abolition of the married couples' tax allowance (report, May 12). In recent years its value has been diminished and currently is worth only £274.50 to those qualifying, and this is the same for all married taxpayers, with no advantage to higher-rate taxpayers.

My concern is that abolishing the allowance will remove the recognition of the value that the married state has for the stability of our society. Most marriages are lifelong and, I believe, still provide the best possible basis for the lives of couples and their children. The various church denominations have spoken eloquently in the past of the importance of the allowance and it would be unfortunate if a visionary Chancellor were to feel he had to remove it merely to help balance the country's books.

Although the married couples' allowance is perhaps little more than a token amount, I believe its removal, allied to the possibility that Miras relief could be withdrawn for new mortgages, will be seen by the newly married as a particularly unkind and ungenerous act.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. P. LEIGH-POLLITT,
2 Foresters Close,
Wallington, Surrey.
May 12.

Brown suit

From Mr K. S. H. Miller

Sir, Would it not be more in keeping with Tony's injunction that ministers are servants of the people and not their masters (report, May 8) if Gordon were to dress in the accepted fashion at the Mansion House next month, rather than insist on wearing a lounge suit (report, May 12).

There is, after all, an element of arrogance, if not downright rudeness, in dressing differently from your hosts in such circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH S. H. MILLER,
The Old Rectory, Wycliffe,
Barnard Castle, Co Durham.
May 12.

Beware 13 across

From Mr David Wilson

Sir,
In March, July, October, May
The ides are on the fifteenth day.

Or is *The Times* crossword (No 20,477) involved in a plot to revise the Roman calendar?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WILSON,
Treleddyn Isaf, Bridell, Cardigan.
May 12.

Election rhetoric aside, the debate on Europe continues

From Sir Christopher Audland

Sir, The Prime Minister is preparing to attend the informal summit of the 15 heads of government of the European Union in Noordwijk on May 23, and the European Council meeting on June 16-17, both of which will centre on the future development of the Union. Election rhetoric has made it hard for people here to understand the essential issues, yet they are relatively simple.

The heads of government must bring to a conclusion the long-running inter-governmental conference (IGC) of the member states. Its main aim is to introduce reforms which would allow the Union to work effectively if it were to take in, progressively, another ten or more members.

There is strong support, here and throughout the Union, for the principle of enlargement, particularly towards the east, so that the emerging democracies in that part of Europe can share in the benefits of Union membership which we in the west have so long enjoyed. But nothing comes free.

If the Union admits them, without radically rethinking its own policies and machinery, it will progressively collapse under its own weight. The blunt truth is, that the *only* way to make a Union of the kind we know to work, with say 25 or 30 member states, would be by strengthening the European Parliament and the Commission at the expense of the Council (of Ministers). Moreover, in the Council, it will be necessary to reduce the national veto power and provide for much more qualified majority voting.

If the IGC, and later the parliaments and peoples of the existing member states, are not willing to go down that road but still want an effective Union, enlargement will be impossible.

If the heads of government decide that they want both the maintenance of an effective Union and further enlargement there will have to be much less insistence on national sovereignty, and much more emphasis on the great benefits which a solid and muscular European Union brings to all its member states.

It is a fundamental British interest that we should be at the heart of the Union and not become simply a European offshore island. It is against this yardstick that the Government must weigh the merits of more specific national interests.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER AUDLAND
(Deputy Secretary-General, European Commission, 1973-81),
The Old House,
Ackenthwaite, Milnthorpe, Cumbria.
May 9.

From Mr George Thomas

Sir, How on earth did Lord Mackenzie-Stuart (letter, May 8) form the opinion that "the election results in Britain demonstrated that popular consent for the aims of the European Union remained"?

The "aims of the European Union" are described by the European People's Party as "to continue the process of unification and federal integration", and by the Vice-President of the European Parliament as being to "transform the Community into a European Union of a federalist type and [to go] beyond a single market and monetary union". During the British election the leaders of the two most successful parties both very specifically assured the voters that they would oppose moves to a federal state of Europe.

You might conclude from the results of the election that the British people would like less confrontation with Europe, but it remains to be seen whether even new Labour can remain welcome in Brussels while they oppose the movement towards a federation.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE THOMAS,
17 Campden Hill Square, W8.
May 8.

From Lord Pearson of Rannoch

Sir, As a European Commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan has taken an oath of exclusive allegiance to the European Union, which pays his handsome salary. So it is odd to find him posing as a British Conservative ("The price of a Tory obsession", May 7).

He accuses Eurosceptics of splitting the Tory party and thus causing our massive defeat. He invites us to unite in co-operation with his federal ambitions, or face exclusion from office for a generation.

His problem is that hardly any Conservatives agree with him. The vast majority will prefer to unite in support of friendly departure from the EU, while keeping access to its single market.

This policy might not suit Sir Leon, but, after Labour's honeymoon in Europe has ended in betrayal and bitterness, it may win us the next election.

It would also accord with Sir Leon's earlier oath of exclusive allegiance, which he took when he became a Privy Counsellor, to the Crown.

Yours faithfully,
PEARSON of RANNOCH.
House of Lords.

From Professor Emeritus George Wedell

Sir, The despatch of Mr Douglas Henderson to Brussels (report, May 5) to announce the new Government's intention to sign the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty recalls the UK's original role at the heart of European social policy.

Almost a quarter of a century ago a European Commission team largely under British leadership drafted the original Social Action Programme. Our intention was to give the workers in the Community a proper share in the benefits to be derived from the Common Market.

In 1973 the Commission's Directorate-General for Social Affairs was not much sought after by the power brokers of the enlarged Community. Thus a disproportionate number of posts was filled by new arrivals from the UK.

The Social Action Programme fell victim to the oil crisis of 1974. It was put on the shelf pending better days. In the event much of it was included in the social chapter of Maastricht. Our ministers will therefore be signing many of the moderate provisions deriving from (largely bipartisan) social thinking in this country in the 1970s.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WEDELL,
(Head, Employment Policy Division, 1973-82),
18 Cranmer Road, Manchester.
May 5.

Pesticides and falling bird numbers

From Mr Andrew Hichens

Sir, I was disheartened to read in a report (May 7) on the disappearance of birds from the English countryside such emotive phrases as farmers who "drench fields in poison" and a suggestion by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds that pesticide should be taxed.

I have been farming for nearly 40 years and I feel that pesticides in themselves are not to blame but an overzealous use of them, which has resulted in loss of habitat and food sources. It is, for instance, an ugly, destructive and unnecessary scar on the countryside to spray the edges of fields, including hedgerow bases, with herbicide.

We have been involved with experiments on this farm into field margins. We planted three-metre strips with a grass wildflower mix and monitored the effect on insects and small mammals.

A number of eminent plant biologists and conservationists have been involved in the work. Although not a panacea, these measures have undoubtedly helped the environment and enhanced the countryside.

Since setaside seems likely to remain part of EU policy for some time, one would hope that provision of habitat could be a major feature in drawing up new and constructive guidelines for the future.

Farmers, I believe, would give a positive response.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW HICHENS,
Radcot Bridge Farm,
Bampton, Oxfordshire.
May 9.

From Mr I. R. Yates

Sir, The report on the dramatic decline in some bird species puts much of the blame on modern farming methods, in particular the use of pesticides; however, I suspect that loss of habitat is a greater contributory cause than the use of pesticides. We need, therefore, to address all the causes and to take prompt action.

There has been a dramatic increase in the population of rooks and crows, which Peter Lack, in his *Atlas of Wintering Birds in Britain* (1986), estimated at just over 12 million. They cover many miles of hedgerows in the course of a day's hunting and the distressing remains of their spoils are clear for everyone to see.

In the past the population was kept in check mainly by gamekeepers intent on preserving gamebirds. The wild-game population is now so low that predators are preventing its recovery and their alternative food source is now in the nests of other bird species.

The behavioural scientist Dr Nicholas Fox's 1995 report, *Aspects of killing wild animals in Britain*, estimated the number of wild birds killed by cats (letters, April 25, 28; May 6, 7, 10) as 75 million. He now estimates that the cat population in this country has doubled in the past seven years.

Finally, the weather gets blamed for most ills in the countryside; however, birds do need regular access to water as well as food to survive.

Yours faithfully,
I. R. YATES,
Latchleys Manor, Steeple Bumpstead,
Nr Haverhill, Suffolk.
May 8.

V&A closures

From Mr Denis J. Sullivan

Sir, On Wednesday, May 7, I went to the V & A to see the Britain 1500-1750 gallery, which I found to be closed. An official advised me that the museum staff holiday period was beginning and that further gallery closures were likely to take place.

On Thursday, May 8, I found that in addition to the Britain 1500-1750 gallery, the Europe 1600-1800 gallery was closed. When I inquired at the information desk about a timetable of gallery closures, I was told that the museum would not know until 10am on any given morning which staff would be available to open particular galleries.

The Britain and Europe galleries are both very large but comparatively easy to cordon off, and are therefore easy targets for closure.

With summer approaching it seems likely that ever larger areas of the museum may be closed without prior notice.

Surely it must be possible for a museum of such importance to maintain enough staff to fulfil its duty to the paying public?

Yours etc,
DENIS SULLIVAN,
60 Humber Road, SE3.
May 8.

Zaire's rhinos

From Dr Kes Hillman Smith

Sir, Your report on the northern white rhinoceros of the Garamba National Park, Zaire (April 24), did not recognise the sterling work of the park staff, who have continued patrols to protect the rhinos despite the current and long-standing problems in the region. Far from being "left to die", as your front page header announced, every effort is being made by all of us to conserve the last 30 rhinos and other wildlife.

My husband, Fraser Smith, the project leader, who has just been able to go back into the park, reports that the Alliance forces, who are currently occupying the park are carrying out anti-poaching patrols jointly with the guards.

Yours faithfully,
KES SMITH
(Co-ordinator, Monitoring and Research, Garamba National Park Project, Zaire),
c/o WWF EARPO,
PO Box 62440, Nairobi, Kenya.
May 9.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Humphrey at home

From Mr Michael Ritchie

Sir, Your report (May 10) of the reconciliation between Humphrey and Mrs Blair curiously omits the important and confusing fact that the cat lives at No 10, whereas the Blairs live at No 11.

Humphrey already has a reputation for residing where he wants, regardless of the whims of his political masters. Could it be that in a coup worthy of his fictional namesake he has established his rights as a sitting tenant?

The incoming Prime Minister, faced with a choice between the demands of his wife and those of the Cabinet Office cat, would surely have been advised to reach the compromise he has, leave Humphrey where he belongs and move next door.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RITCHIE,
Bryngolman Farm, Llangolman,
Clynderwen, Pembrokeshire.

From Mr I. Johnson

Sir, How disappointing to see Cherie Blair surrender to the pro-cat lobby by being photographed with the feline predator that stalks (and no doubt fouls) the gardens of Downing Street.

It is only hoped that such an early volte-face at No 10 is not a sign of things to come.

Yours faithfully,
IAN JOHNSON,
The Glen,
Salisbury Road, Shrewton, Wiltshire.
May 11.

Too close for comfort?

From Mr Angus I. Campbell

Sir, The Reverend James Graham (letter, May 7), is fortunate that, should he win BT's "Friends and Family" dream holiday, he could share it with a benign cleric. I would be host to my mother-in-law, my boss and my eight most dilatory debtors.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS I. CAMPBELL,
Garthdee, Edinburgh Road,
Bathgate, West Lothian.
May 7.

From Mr Graham Burford

Sir, While the Reverend J. H. Graham may be concerned about taking his archdeacon with him on holiday, what would I (and no doubt countless others) do in an exotic location with the company that provides me with access, via telephone, to the Internet?

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM BURFORD,
38 Quarrendon Road,
Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

From the Reverend Colin James

Sir, The Reverend James Graham should worry; my "Friends and Family" include the whole of Oxford Diocesan Church House.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN JAMES,
7 Sewell Avenue,
Wokingham, Berkshire.
May 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: *The Queen visited the* Household Cavalry at Combermere Barracks, Windsor, this morning and was received by General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick (Colonel, *The Blues and Royals*, Gold Stick in Waiting), Colonel Peter Rogers (Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Household Division, Silver Stick in Waiting) and *Lieutenant-Colonel Barney White-Spunner* (Commanding Officer).

Her Majesty inspected the Barrack Guard and afterwards walked to the Barrack Square to *view Regimental presentations.*

The Queen attended a Reception in the Warrant Officers' Mess and was subsequently entertained to *Luncheon in the Officers' Mess.*

Her Majesty later visited the Museum.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon opened the exhibition "Lord Cochrane in Chile: In the Admiral's Footsteps" at the Bolivar Hall, Grafton Street, London W1.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: The Duke of York this afternoon presented the prizes at the British American Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament at the Palo Alto Golf Club, California.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, *this afternoon attended a Corporate Members Reception* at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, afterwards received Brigadier *Ronald Silk upon relinquishing his appointment* as Colonel of The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (29th/45th Foot) and Brigadier *John Weller upon assuming the* appointment.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 12: The Prince of Wales this morning departed from Royal Air Force Lyneham for Hesse, *Germany.*

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited organic farms at the Domain Mechthildshausen and the Habitzheim Estate.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a Dinner given by the Minister President of the State of Hesse (Herr Hans Eichel) at the Eberbach Monastery.

Mr Nicholas Archer is in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 12: The Princess Margaret, *Countess of Snowdon, President,* the Friends of the Elderly, visited Perrins House and Davenham House, the Society's homes in Malvern, today.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hereford and Worcester (Sir Thomas Dunne).

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this evening opened the exhibition, "Serenissima: the Arts of Fashion in Venice from the 13th to the 18th *Century*", at the European Academy for the Arts, Grosvenor Place, London SW1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 12: *The Duke of Gloucester, President, Cancer Research Campaign,* accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this evening attended a Celebration of Dance *followed by dinner, in aid of the* Lord Mayor's Appeal, at the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, London SW7.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a service in Westminster Abbey to *mark the official launch of SSAFA* Forces Help at noon.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees, will give a *luncheon for The Duke of Edin*burgh's Award International Association at Buckingham Palace at 1.10; and as Colonel-in-Chief of *the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, will attend a reception* at St James's Palace at 6.45.

The Princess Royal, as president, Princess Royal Trust for Carers, *will attend a volunteers day at* Stakis Edinburgh, Grosvenor Street, at 11.05; will open the Pringle Chinese Collection, Royal *Botanic Garden, Inverleith Hill,* Edinburgh, at 1.20; and as Patron, Scottish Institute of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, will preside *at the third meeting of the* advisory council at the Scottish Sports Council, Caledonia House, South Gyle, Edinburgh at 2.20.

The Duke of Gloucester, as president, St Bartholomew's Hospital, will open the museum at the hospital at noon.

Princess Alexandra will attend the 50th Anniversary Concert of the London Philharmonic Choir at the *Albert Hall* at 6.55.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS:
Dante Alighieri, poet, Florence, 1265; Sir Arthur Sullivan, composer, London, 1842; Sir Frank Brangwyn, painter, Bruges, 1867; Georges Braque, Cubist, Argenteuil, *France,* 1882; *Daphne Du Maurier, novelist,* London, 1907; Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion 1937-49, Lexington, Alabama, 1914.

DEATHS:
Baron Georges Cuvier, zoologist and statesman, Paris, 1832; John Nash, *architect,* Cowes, 1835; Alfred Milner, Viscount Milner, imperialist, Sturry Court, near Canterbury, 1925; Fridtjof Nansen, explorer and statesman, Nobel Peace laureate, 1922, Lysaker, Norway, 1930; Frances Hodgkins, artist, Dorchester, 1947; Gary Cooper, actor, Los Angeles, 1961.

The first permanent English settlement in America was established *at Jamestown, Virginia,* 1607.

The German economy totally collapsed, 1927.

Italian and German forces in Africa surrendered, 1943.

Pope John Paul II survived an assassination attempt by a Turkish gunman in St Peter's Square, 1981.

Awards for gallantry and distinguished service

Details of awards for gallant and distinguished service in former Yugoslavia (FY), Northern Ireland (NI) and elsewhere are published today. A list of those who have been honoured is given below, with the area in which they are serving:

Northern Ireland

CBE
Colonel Jonathan Rupert Maunsell Hackett, late The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, Shrewsbury.

OBE
Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Ian Hebden Andrews, MBE, Intelligence Corps, Cyprus; *Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Peter Devenish* Folkes, Army Air Corps, Upavon.

MBE
Squadron Leader Michael Robert Bird, Royal Air Force, Uxbridge; Corporal Barry Kevin Brown, The Royal Green Jackets, *Rochill; Major Alexander Uist Campbell,* Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Abbeywood; Major James William Denny, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, *FY; Captain William Henry Eke,* The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, NI; Squadron Leader Sheila Elizabeth Haughton, Royal Air Force, Benson; Major *Paul James Oliver, The Royal Logistic* Corps, Andover; Captain Gary Stuart Pear, Intelligence Corps, Cyprus; Colour Sergeant Bernard Joseph Plunkett, Royal Marines, retired; Staff Sergeant Ian *William Purchase, Corps of Royal Electrical and* Mechanical Engineers, London; Major Robert Alan Sharp, Royal Corps of Signals, Camberley; Major Stephen Forrest *McKinlay Telfer, The Royal Scots,* Colchester; Major Henry Owen Walters, Intelligence Corps, Shefford.

MiD
Sergeant John Oliver Casey, Adjutant General's Corps (*RMP*), *Longmoor; Trooper* Paul Coombs, The Royal Dragoon Guards, Tidworth; Private James Thomas Gorman, The Highlanders, Catterick; Corporal James Alexander Hepburn, The Black Watch, *Hong Kong; Private Ian Johnson,* The Royal Logistic Corps, NI; Sergeant James McCurdy, Adjutant General's Corps (SPS), Pirbright; Corporal Jason Pickering, The Royal Dragoon Guards, Tidworth; Sergeant Paul Plowman, The Princess of Wales's *Royal Regiment, London.*

QCB
Sergeant Paul Steven Clare, The Parachute *Regiment, London; Corporal Stephen Ed*mund Coles, The Royal Logistic Corps, Germany; Sergeant Anthony John Hawkins QGM, The Queen's Royal Lancers, London; Sapper John Hosking, Corps of Royal Engineers, NI; Lance-Corporal Ian James *Smith,* Corps of Royal Engineers, NI.

QCVS
Corporal Paul Michael Beardall, Corps of Royal Engineers, Cambridge; Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Geoffrey Robert Boscawen, Coldstream Guards, Upavon; Sergeant Paul Cooper, The Royal Regiment of Wales, *Hounslow; Staff Sergeant Roger Crook,* Corps of Royal Engineers, Cambridge; Captain Robert Dickinson, The Royal Regiment of Wales, NI; Warrant Officer Class 2 Peter Michael Feeney, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Germany; Warrant Officer Richard John Gapper, Royal Marines, retired; Sergeant Broderick James Gill, The Royal Dragoon *Guards, Tidworth; Lance Corporal Terence* Ashley Hobbs, Coldstream Guards, Germany; Petty Officer Marine Engineering Mechanic (M) Colin Peter Hodgson, Portsmouth; *Colour Sergeant Stephen Paul* Holden, Royal Marines, Taunton; Sergeant Andrew Stephen Knight, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Preston; Marine Wilson *Leon John Leckie,* Royal Marines, Taunton; Warrant Officer Class 2 Michael James Lee, Adjutant General's Corps (SPS), NI; Lance Corporal David Lennon, The Royal Irish Regiment, NI; Captain Alexan*der John Liddle,* The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Preston; Captain John Patrick Augustine Mason, The Royal Irish Regiment, NI; Corporal Paul Andrew Moodie, *The Royal Green Jackets, Germany;* Captain Andrew David Norris, Corps of Royal Engineers, Italy; Colour Sergeant Ivan James Osborne, The Royal Regiment of Wales, Shornecliffe; Sergeant William *James Patterson,* The King's Own Scottish Borderers, Edinburgh; Sergeant Alan Pedwell, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, NI; Major Kieron Michael Potts, The Highlanders, Catterick; Warrant Officer Class 2 *Leslie Simm, Intelligence Corps, London; Warrant* Officer Class 2 Robert James Simpson, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, NI; Sergeant William John Steenson, The Royal Irish Regiment, NI; Warrant Officer Class 2 Samuel David Taylor, The Royal Irish *Regiment, NI; Staff Sergeant Simon Richard* Webster, Corps of Royal Engineers, Cambridge; Sergeant Graham Michael Willis, The Royal Dragoon Guards, Tidworth.

Former Yugoslavia

CBE
Brigadier Michael Anthony Charlton-Weedy OBE, late Royal Regiment of Artillery, London; Brigadier John Chalmers McColl OBE, late the Royal Anglian *Regiment,* Tidworth.

OBE
Lieutenant-Colonel Hamish Lister Armitage MacDonald MBE, The Queen's Dragoon Guards, London; Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick John Mercer MBE, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, Tidworth; Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Ralph Erling Singer, The King's Royal Hussars, Italy; Lieutenant-Colonel Trefor Gareth Williams, Adjutant General's Corps (ETS), *Germany.*

MBE
Captain Alexander John Finnen, The Parachute Regiment, London; Major Philip Gill, Corps of Royal Engineers, Andover; War*rant Officer Class 1 John Charles McBride,* The Royal Logistic Corps, Germany.

QCB
Captain Paul Geoffrey Gilby, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, Tidworth; Sergeant Anthony *John Seccombe, Corps of Royal Engineers,* Wimbish.

QCVS
Chief Petty Officer Wren Radio Supervisor Melanie Jane Arnott, Fareham; Corporal Alan Peter Beeton, Corps of Royal Engineers, Thatcham; Lieutenant-Colonel John Robin Berry OBE, Intelligence Corps, Shefford; Major Matthew John *Davis,* The Royal Logistic Corps, Germany; Captain Kirsten Elizabeth Edmonds, Royal Army Medical Corps, Camberley; Warrant Officer Class 2 Carol Ann Gallagher, Intelligence Corps, Germany; Captain Edward James Hemesley, The Queen's *Lancashire* Regiment, Tidworth; *Lieutenant-Colonel* Robert Charles Hendicott MBE, Corps of Royal Engineers, Maidstone; Staff Sergeant Graeme Andrew Hockey, Intelligence Corps, Wilton; Major Aidan Oliver Giles Hoey, The Royal Logistic Corps, Germany; Warrant Officer Class 2 *Alistair John Hull,* Adjutant General's Corps (MPS), Upavon; Sergeant Alan Isherwood, Army Air Corps, Germany; Major-General John Panton Kiszely MC, late Scots Guards, Germany; Sapper Christopher Jeffrey Mann, Corps of Royal Engineers, Chilwell; *Squadron Leader Terry John Matthews,* Royal Air Force, Italy; Major Paul Alfred Pendlebury, Corps of Royal Engineers, Maidstone; Brigadier Brian Peter Plummer, late The Royal Welch Fusiliers, London; *Lieutenant-Colonel Philip Andrew Pratley,* MBE, Royal Corps of Signals, Germany; Lieutenant-Colonel Norman Hamish Rollo, Corps of Royal Engineers, Bulford; Sergeant Mark Anthony Smith, *The Queen's Lancashire Regiment,* Tidworth; Lieutenant-Colonel Colin William Tadier, Royal Regiment of Artillery, Tidworth; Major Alastair Boyd Woods, Adjutant General's *Corps (ETS), Belgium.*

Miscellaneous

MBE
Colour Sergeant Mark Raymond James Courtnell, The Parachute Regiment, retired.

MiD
Warrant Officer Class 2 Christopher Brian Matthews, *Royal Regiment of Artillery,* Newcastle.

QCVS
Lieutenant Gary Ian Bradley, Royal Regiment of Artillery, Newcastle; Local Lieutenant-Colonel *Stephen John Cox,* Royal Marines, Northwood; Captain Harry Arthur Blair Holt, Irish Guards, London; Colour Sergeant David Michael Smith, Coldstream Guards, London; Major Richard James Elton Williams, The Parachute Regiment, Catterick.

Today's birthdays

Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw, explorer and herald, 53; Mr Dirk Aldous, Chief Constable, Dorset, 53; Mr W.A. Allen, deputy director *monetary analysis, Bank of Eng*land, 48; Miss Bea Arthur, actress, 72; Mr Luciano Benetton, industrialist, 62; Miss Rosie Boycott, Editor, the *Independent on Sunday,* 46; Sir John Cope, *former* MP, 60; Miss Eileen Diss, theatrical designer, 66; Mr M.W.R. Dobson, group chief executive, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, 45; Lord Dor*mer,* 77; Mr *Robert Earnshaw,* racehorse trainer, 38; Mr Peter Gabriel, singer, 47; General John Galvin, former Supreme Allied *Commander, Europe,* 68; *Dr Jane Glover,* conductor, 48; Sir John Habakkuk, FBA, former Principal, Jesus College, Oxford, 82; Mr Anthony Hide, racehorse trainer, 58; Sir John Johnston, diplomat, 79; Mr Harvey Keitel, actor, 58; Sir Laurence Kirwan, archaeologist, 90; the Earl of Leven and Melville, 73; Sir Sydney Lipworth, former *chairman, Monopolies and Merg*ers Commission, 66; Mr Richard Madeley, broadcaster, 41; Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, former Prime Minister of *Fiji,* 77; *Sir Ronald* Miller, *company chairman,* 60; Sir Paul Osmond, civil servant, 50; the



Helen Sharman, the astronaut, is 34

Earl of Perth, 90; Mr Tim Pigott-Smith, actor, 51; Sir Alfred Pugsley, civil engineer, 94; Mr Alan Rayfield, former Governor, *Long Lartin prison,* 61; *Miss Selina* Scott, broadcaster, 46; Sir Conrad Swan, genealogist, 73; Marquess Townshend, 81; Sir William Utting, former chief inspector, *Social Services Inspectorate,* 66; Miss Zoë Wanamaker, actress, 48; Mr Stevie Wonder, singer, 47.

Church news

The Rev Geoffrey Crago, Assistant Curate (NSM), Highnam, Lassington, Rudford, Tibberton and *Taynton: to be also* Acting Diocesan Communications Officer (Gloucester).

The Rev Christopher Gilbert, Team Vicar, St Philip, Derbyshire Hill (Liverpool): to be Team Vicar, *Cannock Team Ministry, St Luke* (Lichfield).

The Rev Peter Green, Assistant Curate, Brigg: to be Priest-in-charge, Billinghay w Walcot (*Lincoln*).

The Rev Peter Hedge, Assistant Curate, Thornbury: to be Vicar, Queensbury (Bradford).

Memorial service

Professor Vero Wynne-Edwards
*Professor C. Duncan Rice, Prin*cipal and Vice-Chancellor of Aberdeen University, attended a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of *Emeritus Professor* Vero Wynne-Edwards, former Regius Professor of Natural History and Vice-Principal of the univer*sity, held yesterday in King's* College Chapel, Old Aberdeen.

The Rev Dr Duncan Heddle officiated. Professor Charles Gimingham and Professor Domi*nic Houlihan, Head of the Depart*ment of Zoology read the lessons. Professor Paul Racey paid tribute. Members of the family, Professor Derek Ogston, Senior Vice-Prin*cipal, representatives from Scot*tish National Heritage, the Royal Society, the Scottish Association for Marine Science, and many other friends and colleagues were *among those present.*

Canon John Norman Davidson Kelly

A Memorial Service for Canon John Norman Davidson Kelly, Canon of Chichester and former *Principal of St Edmund Hall,* Oxford, will be held at 3pm on Saturday, June 21, at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. All are welcome and those *wishing to attend are invited to* notify the Bursar, St Edmund Hall, Oxford, OX1 4AR, by June 1, 1997.

Appointment

Mr Khurshid Hassan Drabu to be a full-time Immigration Adjudicator, designated a Special Adjudicator.

Luncheons

Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission
Lord Howe of Aberavon, CH, QC, was the guest of *honour* and *speaker at a luncheon* given yesterday at the Glaziers' Hall by the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission in honour of British Marshall Scholars completing *their awards. Dr Robert Stevens,* Chairman of the Commission, presided. Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of *State* for Foreign *and Commonwealth Affairs,* also spoke.

Securities Institute
Sir Andrew Large, Chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, was the *principal* guest at a luncheon held yesterday at the Securities Institute. Mr Graham Ross Russell, chairman, presided.

Rotary Club of London
Mr Bill Cowen, President of the Rotary Club of London, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. The Ambassador for Switzerland also spoke.

The London Institute
Mr Julian E. Markham, Chairman of the London Institute, was the host at a luncheon held on Thursday, May 8, at the Institute's *Headquarters in* Davies Street, W1. The guests included:
Mr Jeff Banks, Lord Parkinson, Professor Eileen Hogan (Camberwell College of Arts), Mr Julian Royle (Chairman, The Royle Group) and Sir William Stubbs (Rector of the London Institute).

Dinners

HM Government
Mrs Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, was the host at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government last night at Lancaster House to mark the VIIIth EUREKA Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

Furniture Makers' Company
Mr Edward Brett, Master of the Furniture Makers' Company, presided at a dinner held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Timothy *Hammond, Senior Warden, Mr* Bernard Harty, Town Clerk and Chamberlain of London, and Dr Thomas Stuttaford also spoke.

During the evening, the Master presented the *Claxton Stevens'* Craft Guild Mark prize 1996 to Mr Martin Grierson, for a boardroom table made for the St Bride Foundation Institute. Mr Charles *Codrington of Charles Codrington* Furniture received the Production Guild Mark No 54 for the provincial range. Mr Alderman and Sheriff Clive Martin was present.

The Athenaeum
Lord Walton of Detchant was the speaker at a talk-dinner held last night at the Athenaeum.

Service dinner

The Royal Naval Reserve Officers' Dining Club
Captain F. Ashe Lincoln, QC, RNVR, presided at a dinner held on Thursday, May 8, in the Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, London W1. The *principal* guest was Captain Michael Lloyd, Senior Officer, World Wide Shipping (Cargo).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.C. Swann
and Miss T. Bradley
The engagement *is announced* between Toby, *son of Sir Michael Swann, Bt, of Fulham,* London, *and* Mrs Lydia Swann, of Flimwell, East Sussex, and Tanna, daughter of Ms Nolan Bradley, of Seattle, Washington, and Mr Keith Bradley, of Salem, Oregon.

Captain R.D. Barclay
and Miss J.E. Allanson
The engagement is announced between Captain Robin David Barclay, The King's Royal Hussars, son of Mr and Mrs David Barclay, of Higham, Suffolk, and Juliet Emma, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Allanson, of Rotherfield, Sussex.

Mr R.A.S. Gradidge
and Miss C.L.J. Roberts
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Major Francis Gradidge and the late *Diana Gradidge* and stepson of Elizabeth Gradidge, of Netheravon, Wiltshire, and Cressida, daughter of Mr and Mrs *Francis K. Roberts, of London* SW6.

Mr R.J. Ruiz
and Miss G.A. Wood
The engagement is announced between Rafael, *son of Mr and* Mrs John Ruiz, of Monewden, Suffolk, and Gabrielle, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs James Wood, of Heywood, Lancashire.

Mr A.W. Schaeffer
and Miss C.L.C. Roch
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Schaeffer, of Sydney, *Australia,* and *Carla,* elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Roch, of London.

Mr B.N. Selman
and Miss S.J. Ritchie
The engagement is announced between *Barry,* younger son of Mrs Selman and the late Mr Teo Selman, of Malaga, Spain, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Ritchie, of Heversham, *Cumbria.*

Marriages

Mr J.C. Golder
and Miss K.M. Valentine
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 10, at BAFTA, Piccadilly, London W1, between Jason Golder and Kate Valentine. The honeymoon is being spent in Andalucia.

Mr J. Landale
and Miss M. Fane
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 10, 1997, at St Peter's Church, Eaton Square, of Mr Jamie Landale to Miss Miranda Fane. The Rev William Keyes officiated.

The bride was attended by Alice and Harry Fane, Edward Fane Trefusis, Charlie, Rory and Kirsty Landale and Hugh Stanley. Mr Peter Landale and Mr William Landale were best men.

A reception was held at The Gibson Hall, EC4, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Latest wills

Kenneth Morton Channer Evans, of Blackmoor, Liss, Hampshire, left estate valued at £3,006,170 net.

John McDonald Freeman, chartered accountant, of Newbury, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,384,740 net.

Richard Chevallier Green, of Kington, Hereford and Worcester, left estate valued at £1,511,180 net.

James Patterson Holloway, of Ruislip, Middlesex, left estate valued at £1,158,740 net.

Harold Ingram, of Hyde Park, London W2, left estate valued at £1,060,000 net.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

It is not that the Lord is slow in keeping his promise, as *some suppose, but that he is* patient with you. It is not *his will that any should be* lost, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3 : 9

BIRTHS

BERRY - On April 20th to Jan *(née Mercer)* and Mark, a son, Thomas David Mercer.

BISHOP - On 10th May to Jane (née Goodwin) and Robin, a daughter Sophie Anne Nepean, *a sister for* Laura and Katie.

BULL - On May 7th to Anthony and Vanessa *(née Walker),* a daughter, Charlotte.

BURNETT SMALL - On 9th March 1997 to Lora and Simon, a son, Fergal Robert, *a brother for* Fabian and Finlay.

BURNETT - On 9th May 1997 in Wollongong, Australia to Maree and Ian, a son, Adam *Edward Shaw.*

COLES - On Sunday May 4th 1997 at St Thomas' *Hospital, to Peggy (née* Dore) and Thomas, a son, Walter Benedict.

COUGHLAN - *On 7th* May at The Portland Hospital to Jerry and Betsy, a son Christopher Beck, a brother for Kelley and Ian.

DENEHY - On Saturday May 10th to Simon and Rolla, a daughter, Daisy Louisa, a *sister for* Tatiana, *William* and Lydia.

DOWLES - On May 8th to Ricky and Jacqueline, a son, Charles John William, a brother for Harry and Edward.

DUNCAN - On 4th May at The Portland Hospital to Judith *(née Gibbard)* and Gregory, a son Samuel, a brother for Melanie.

EDEN - On Friday May 9th at The Portland Hospital to Debbie (née Million) and Tim, a daughter, Gabrielle Alexandra.

FRASER - On May 8th at The Portland Hospital to Fiona (née Butcher) and Glen, a daughter, Isobel, a sister for Lucy and Alexander.

FROST - On 9th May 1997 at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, to Wendy (née Finn) and Christopher, a son, *Nicholas Peter,* a brother for Rosie Alexandra.

GOESS-SAURAU - On Saturday 10th May *to Susie* and Konrad, a daughter (Franziska Susanna Marie).

GORDON - On April 28th at The Portland Hospital to Fiona (née King) and Noel, a very precious daughter, Isabella.

HALL - On May 8th to Jane (née Fowler) and Andrew, a daughter Angharad Jane.

BIRTHS

ISAAC - On May 10th 1997 to Caroline and Jeremy, a son Dominic Archibald Gower, a brother for Lara.

LANGLEY - On May 5th at The Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, to Robert and Helen (née Smith), a son, Edward John, a brother for Thomas.

LERWILL - On May 1st at The Portland Hospital to Nicola (née Keddie) and Robert, a daughter Alice Margaret, a sister to Anna.

MACKINLAY - On May 8th to Pamela and Donald, Ellie Rose, a much loved daughter and sister to Hannah.

MCFARLANE - On 8th May to Dawn (née Simpson) and Lockesley, a son, Tristen Campbell Thaddeus.

MELENDEZ - On May 1st at The Portland Hospital to Alice Sequchanay and Thomas Melendez, a son Tomas Javier Eusebio.

NELSON - On March 31st at Hillingdon *Hospital* to Rosamond and Ekow, a daughter, Stephanie Ewura Adjowa, *a sister for* Albert Abeku.

O'NEILL - On May 9th 1997 to Juanita and *Trevor,* a son, James John.

TAYLOR - On May 9th 1997, to Georgina *(née Dangerfield)* and Richard, a son, Augustus *Michael Mercer,* a brother for Lucinda.

TAYLOR-PEAT - On May 6th to Kim and Chris, a daughter Alice Elizabeth Dorothy.

TRENCHARD - On May 9th to Sarah (née Saunders) and Henry, a daughter, Katherine.

WOOLLARD - On March 27th to Patricia (née Quirk) and Leslie, a son, Michael James.

MARRIAGES

POLAK - The marriage took place in Chichester on May 10th of Peter Guy, younger son of *Gaynor* and Mrs J. Wills of High Wycombe and Deborah Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Polak of Cobham.

DEATHS

ALLEN - *Harvey R. (Kim).* On 9th May aged 85. Sadly missed by his many friends. Private cremation. No flowers and no letters please.

BARROWCLOUGH - On 10th May after a short illness, Helen Adine Colyer Barrowclough, aged 91 years. Widow of the late Doctor John Barrowclough. Much loved.

DEATHS

BOMPAS - Margaret Mary died peacefully on 9th May 1997, aged 85, at Queen Mary House, Chislehurst, Kent; beloved sister of Gwen and Donald and much loved Aunt and Great Aunt. Funeral Service on Monday, 19th May at Eltham Crematorium, Crown Woods Way, SE9 at 3.45pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to the Schoolmistresses and Governesses Benevolent Institution, Queen Mary House, *Manor Park Road,* Chislehurst, BR7 5PY.

CHAPPELL - (née Bell) Tina, at Countess of Chester Hospital, Chester on May 2nd 1997, aged 35 years, greatly loved daughter of Rear Admiral John and Joan Bell of Wellington, Somerset and niece of Wallie, Sybil and Brian Woodman of Minehead; great and cheerful friend of her sisters Terry Marsh and Mary Mulleas, and their children Susie Marsh, Cary Tyrer (née Marsh) and Rob Mulleas all of London and all her colleagues at Shell Chemicals, Chester. Requiem Mass at St. George's Catholic Church, Taunton on Monday 19th May at 2.15p.m. Family flowers only, please, but donations if desired to the *Terence Higgins Trust c/o* E White & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 136/139, East Reach, Taunton TA1 3HN. Her brightness and compassion will be sadly missed. May she rest in peace.

COLE - On May 9th, Dr William Charles Cole L.V.O. aged 87. Suddenly in Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford. Funeral Service at Guildford Crematorium on Friday 16th May at 10.30 am. No flowers, but donations, if desired to *Musicians Benevolent Fund.* Inquiries to Leaf and Son 01428 643524. A Memorial *Service will be held later in* the year.

ELVIDGE - John peacefully on 9th May after a long illness. Dearly loved husband of Margaret and a loving father and grandfather. Funeral service at Saint John's Church, Yeadon, West *Yorkshire* at 1.30pm on Thursday 15th May. Family flowers only. Donations to The British Stammering Association. 15 Old Ford Road, London E2 9PJ.

ERRINGTON - *Robert* Warr. Died 9th May 1997 aged 94. Tailor, late of Sandon & Cyngsbury, Savile Row. No flowers. Donations to *Glenthorne Bursary* Fund. Funeral Directors The Co-Operative Society, 58 Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak, Edgware, 0181 952 1393

FITZSIMMONS - On 7th May 1997 *Charles Oster* Myles. Peacefully at home. Born 25th May 1996. Much loved younger son of Tim and Sharon of Hong Kong. Grandson of Denis and Jane of Limpsfield, Surrey and Oliver and Margaret Fleby of Washington D.C.

GOODMAN - Alfred (Goody). On April 26th in Naples, Florida formerly of London after a short illness. Witness Burial at Golders Green Crematorium Tuesday 20th May 10am.

HOUGH - *Madeleine (née* Fournaker) died peacefully on May 8th. Dearly loved and loving wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral Morwenstow Parish Church, Cornwall on Friday 16th May at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please, but donations for Cancer Research c/o and enquiries to Funeral Director Arthur W. Bryant, Bude. Tel: 01288 352282.

HUSSEY - peacefully in hospital, on May 9th 1997, William Douglas, aged 88 years. Cremation at Oxford Crematorium, on Friday 16th, at 2.45pm. Enquiries to Reeves & Pain, telephone 01865 242529

JACKSON - On May 4th after a short illness. Stanley (also known as Jack). Beloved father of Sara and grandfather to Nick and Louise. *Funeral Service at* Reading Crematorium on May 16th at 2pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to Royal British *Legion (Shiplake Branch) c/o* Co-Operative Funeral Directors. Tel: 0118 987 4473.

JESSUP - Jim on May 8th, at home, after a brave fight and always with a smile. Much loved by his wife, Emma, and his family, Helen, Tim and little Jim. A very special person to so many. No flowers by request. Details of donations and funeral from B.C. Baker 01883 343219.

LADBURY *Keith Alistone,* aged 92, passed away at Salisbury District Hospital on 8th May 1997. Beloved husband of Dorothy, much loved father of Nigel and Roger and dearly Grandfather to Mark, Rowena, Philip, Rebecca and Harriet, who was with him at the last. He was a truly *wonderful man who will be* hugely missed by us all. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Britford, Salisbury on Wednesday 28th May at 12.00 noon. Family flowers only, donations in favour of St. Peter's fabric/organ fund c/o. I.M.Newman, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury.

MANN - Sidney Edgar, died peacefully at home on May 7th aged 93. Much loved husband of Margaret and father of Gillian, Martin and John. Funeral at noon on *Friday* 16th May at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston St Mary, Taunton, Somerset. Family flowers only please.

MURPHY - Frank Murphy O.B.E. D.F.C. FRAes (EN.TAF). Former Test Pilot. After a short illness, Frank died peacefully on May 11th 1997. Much loved husband of Gloria, beloved father of Michael and Angela and grandfather of Gabriel, Henry and Emily. Private Cremation at Guildford Crematorium on Friday 16th May 1997 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only, donations to British Polio Fellowship *Eagle Office Centre,* The Runway, South Ruislip HA4 6SE. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

OAKEY *Michael Godfrey,* Managing Director of Steward Warner Instruments Ltd, on Monday 5th may 1997, suddenly and peacefully, at *his home,* Bramley, Tadwick Lane, Gamlingay, Cambs. Adored husband of Glenda, incredible father to Lee and darling Ganga to *Charlotte* and Jack. A unique special man who enriched everyone's lives. Funeral Service Friday May 16th 1997, at St Nicholas Church, *Glinton* at 11.00am Family floral tributes only. Donations if desired to Macmillan Hinchingbrooke Cancer Care Appeal, 2 St *Nicholas* House, Hinchingbrooke Park, Huntingdon, Cambs. An appeal strongly supported by Michael. No mourning dress at family's request.

PACKHAM - On 7th May, in hospital, Peter Jack, aged 77 years. Husband of Jane and father of Roger and Jocelyn. Funeral Service on Wednesday 14th May at St Mary's Church, Bathwick, Bath, at 1 pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations to St Mary's Church c/o E. Hooper and Son, tel: (01225) 422040.

PEARCE - Roderick Berseker Edward, on May 5th, tragically in Mexico aged 39. Beloved son of Mary and Teddy and brother of Alastair. The funeral will be at Rathbeale Parish Church, Co. Limerick on Friday May 16th at 3.00 pm. Enquiries to 01635 268329

PEPPER - Rosemary (née Birle) *Died* on 8th May at Loadhams Nursing Home, Farnham. Much loved and missed by her children, Jenny and Terence and grandchildren, Asta, Dale and Guy. Funeral Service at The United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 2pm 14th May. No flowers - donations if desired to Conquest (Society for Art for the Physically Disabled), 3 Beverley Close, East *Ewell,* Epsom KT17 3RR.

REED - Peter. On May 9th peacefully in hospital aged 85 after a sudden illness. A rich and unique life. His debunking wit will never be forgotten by any who met him, especially by his sons, David, Oliver and Simon. His life will be celebrated at North East Surrey Crematorium, Gamel Drive, Raynes Park at 3pm *Saturday* May 17th. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Wrexham Football Club c/o Frederick W. Paine, 6 Coombe Lane, Raynes Park, London SW20 8ND. Tel: 0181 946 1974.

RIVIERE - Michael Valentine Briton. On Saturday May 10th at home. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Smallbrough on Friday May 16th at 11.30am.

ROBINSON - On May 11th peacefully at home. Lt. Cdr. Donald John Holden Robinson R. N. (Robbie). Beloved husband of Valerie, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Stephen's Church, Rochester Row, London SW1 at 3pm on Friday 16th May. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Lord Lawrence 22 Queen Anne's *Gate, SW1.* All enquiries to H Kenyon 74 Rochester Row, SW1P 1JU. Tel: 0171 834 4624.

SHEPHEARD - On May 11th *1997* Major General Ken Shepheard died peacefully at home after a long illness patiently borne. Much loved husband of Maureen (née Bowen-Colthurst), father of Jo, Heather and Patricia and grandfather of Vanessa, Jonathan, Jessica, Nicholas, William and Kim. Funeral at Layer de la Haye Parish Church on Friday 23rd May at 1pm. No flowers please. Donations to Council for Education in World Citizenship and Layer de la Haye Church Repair Fund, c/o W H Shepheard Funeral Directors 93 High Street, Colchester.

SHERRY - Sir Michael. Suddenly at home on May 8th 1997. Member of Parliament for Uxbridge. Much loved husband and father. Funeral at St Mary's Church, *Harefield,* Middlesex on Friday May 16th at 12 noon. Flowers or donations, if desired, for the Abbeyfield Uxbridge Society Limited to: W. Sherry & Sons 227 Acton Lane, London W4 5DD. Tel: 0181 994 5474. Memorial Service at St Margaret's Church, Westminster on July 24th.

STOTT - Dora Tweedale on May 9th. Much loved widow of Albert Houghton and Mother of Jenny, Myles and Dinah. Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Funeral private. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, Les Augres Manor, Trinity, Jersey JE3 5BF

SUMMERS - On May 11th, peacefully at his home in *Cynoed, Cantlff,* Guthbert Lionel, JP. (James Summers & Son, Cardiff), dearly loved Husband of Rita, loving father of Topsy, devoted father in law of David and Darling Cathy of Vicky and Becky. Resting at James Summers & Son, South Court Funeral Home, Cantlff until the Service at Llandaff Cathedral on Friday, May 16th at 11.30am, followed by interment at Cathays Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or if preferred Donations to "Special Baby Equipment Fund, Eastern Division of South Wales", c/o Mr J R Bevan, 7 Guildford Street, *Cardiff,* CF1 4EH.

SUTTON-VANE - Vane died

OBITUARIES

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR GEORGE BURNS

Major-General Sir George Burns, GCVO, CB, DSO, OBE, MC, Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, 1966-94, died on May 5 aged 86. He was born on January 29, 1911.

In a life devoted to the Coldstream Guards, George Burns fought with his regiment in some of the Second World War's toughest battles. After 30 years' active service, which included fighting in Flanders and France in 1940 and in Italy from the autumn of 1943, he was Colonel of the regiment for another 28 years.

He was a natural leader and proved himself imperturbable under the most trying circumstances. In May 1940, as the German 18th Army closed in on the Flemish village of Veurne (then styled Furnes in deference to the French nomenclature current during the campaign), he commanded a company in some desperate defensive fighting. Later, in Italy, as a battalion commander, he took part in many of the bitter battles which characterised the Anglo-American advance from Calabria to the Po Valley plain; in the teeth of stiff German resistance, between the autumn of 1943 and the spring of 1945.

Walter Arthur George Burns was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took a degree in history before being commissioned into the Coldstream Guards in 1932. In 1938 he became ADC to the Viceroy of India.

He returned to England in April 1940, just in time to join the 1st Battalion of his regiment in France as its Adjutant, a few weeks before Hitler opened his offensive in the West. As the Blitzkrieg broke on the Western Front his battalion moved forwards into Belgium in accordance with a pre-arranged plan. Thereafter it recoiled towards the coast before the German onslaught.

He won his MC for his part in holding a vital sector of the Dunkirk perimeter near Furnes, where a battalion of his regiment and one of the Grenadier Guards were holding the line of the Loo-Nieuport Canal against two corps of the German 18th Army. Burns was sent forward to take command of one of the companies, in which all the officers had been killed or wounded, and which was in some understandable confusion. He rallied it and successfully repulsed successive German attacks until the final withdrawal was ordered late next day. He was lucky to survive: a sniper's bullet turned up the brim of his steel helmet for him.

After Dunkirk, his abilities as a staff officer were fully tested. From March 1941 until November 1943, he was Brigade Major in succession to the 9th Infantry Brigade; the Support Group of the Guards Armoured Division; and the 32nd Guards Brigade.

In the autumn of 1943 he was sent out to Italy to assume command of the 3rd Battalion the Coldstream Guards in the 201st Guards Brigade during the fighting for Monte Camino, eight miles south of Cassino. He commanded it with outstanding success throughout the rest of the campaign. Under his command the battalion added "Monte Camino", "Garigliano Crossing", "Advance on Florence" and "Monte Domini" to the Coldstream battle honours. He was awarded his DSO for personal bravery and outstanding leadership during the crossing of the Garigliano and in the subsequent bitter fighting around Trimonsuoli.

After the war his appointments included Brigade Major of the Household Brigade, 1945-47; Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion



again, this time in Palestine, 1947-50; and Commander 4th Guards Brigade in the British Army of the Rhine, 1955-59. During this period, he acquired an encyclopaedic knowledge of the customs and traditions of the Brigade of Guards, which he used to the full in his last active appointment in the Army as GOC London District and the Household Brigade, 1959-62. He was appointed OBE in 1953, CB in 1961 and KCVO in 1962.

On his retirement from the Army he became Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, carrying out his duties with conscientious enthusiasm, lending support to the local aircraft and other high-tech manufacturers, and taking a keen interest in every aspect of life in the county. His principal interest, however, lay in his membership of the Jockey Club and in breeding racehorses for the Flat. He became a Steward in 1964 and supervised racing, principally at Leicester and Folkestone.

In 1966 he was appointed Colonel of the Coldstream Guards. He soon became its much loved father figure, respected for his encouragement, wise counsel and lightness of touch. Indefatigable in visiting Coldstream battalions wherever they might be, and dining with the many Coldstream Guards Association branches scattered up and down the country, he took part in more Queen's Birthday Parades than any other Foot Guards officer. No horseman, despite his interest in horses, it was always with considerable relief to himself and others when he returned to Buckingham Palace still mounted.

In 1991, his 25th year as Colonel, he was advanced to GCVO to the great satisfaction of all past and present members of his regiment. Perhaps one of the most poignant moments of his career came during the 1993 Queen's Birthday Parade when the Colours of the 2nd Battalion were trooped for the last time before it was placed in suspended animation in the "Options for Change" rundown of the Army. Standing behind the Queen on the dais, he saw the battalion march off its last ceremonial parade into history.

He never married, and lived with his mother at North Mymms Park, a beautiful Elizabethan house, until she died.

ABBOT AELRED WATKIN

Dom Aelred Watkin, titular Abbot of Glastonbury and former Headmaster of Downside, died on May 2 aged 79. He was born on February 23, 1918.

DOM Aelred Watkin was a monk of Downside for more than sixty years. A notable antiquarian and historian, he shared his knowledge with generations of pupils at Downside School, teaching there from 1947 to 1975. For the last 13 of those years he was a dedicated and effective headmaster, deploying administrative and pastoral skills which found further expression in his subsequent work as parish priest — and Mayor — of Beccles in Suffolk.

He was made titular Abbot of Glastonbury in 1976 in recognition of his contributions to the English Benedictine Congregation as well as to Roman Catholic education.

He was born in Edgbaston, Birmingham — into a family of numerous sisters — and baptised Christopher (Aelred was his religious name). He was the son of E. I. Watkin, the Catholic philosopher, and after education at the Dominican school at Laxton and a short period with Sheed and Ward, the publishers, he decided to enter Downside as a novice monk on September 27, 1936.

After his ordination he went to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he had a glittering career, being elected a scholar and taking a first in both parts of the Historical Tripos. As an undergraduate he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and in 1950 became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and in 1969 the Royal Society of Arts.

He taught history with great success at Downside from 1947 to 1975, combining erudition and humour with a great instinct for the telling detail. He was housemaster of Caverel House from 1948 to 1962, when he succeeded the formidable Dom Wilfred Passmore as headmaster.

It was a measure of his political ability that during his headmastership, which lasted until 1975, he was able to rise above the tumultuous student years of the 1960s. He liked to describe his technique of control as like that of a medieval king, able to look above the heads of the barons to appeal to the good sense of the people. Although to his irreverent charges he was known as "Bushy" — a nickname given to him because of his thick eyebrows — he was a stern disciplinarian who commanded respect. Under his stewardship the school not only maintained high academic standards, but excelled in sport. He was on the Committee of the Headmasters' Conference and served for many years on the Education Committee of the Somerset County Council.

On relinquishing the post of Headmaster of Downside he became parish priest of St Benet's Minster, Beccles, a fine church which he beautified with a new rood beam, an unusual but handsome addition to an ecclesiastical building in the post-conciliar church. At Beccles he became Mayor in 1979 and his mayoral chain was complemented by the pectoral cross he wore as titular Abbot of Glastonbury, an honour bestowed on him by the English Benedictine Congregation in 1976 to recognise his historical work for the Congregation as well as his great contribution to Catholic education. As Mayor of Beccles his chaplain was a Salvation Army lady officer.

The work of teaching and school administration prevented him from writing the definitive history of medieval Glastonbury which his early work promised. In 1943, before going to Cambridge, he had produced his *Wells Cathedral Miscellany*, and his greatest contribution to scholarship was probably his three-volume edition of *The Great Chartulary of Glastonbury* (1946-56). He was perhaps most pleased, however, with the two-volume *Registrum Archidiaconatus Norwyci* (1946-48), concerned as it was with his beloved East Anglia, in which he had deep family roots. He contributed articles to the *Victorian County History*, the *Cambridge Historical Journal* and the *English Historical Review*, as well as to the *Downside Review*. He also published three spiritual works, *Heart of the World* (1954), *The Enemies of Love* (1958) and *Resurrection is Now* (1975).

Dom Aelred had a characteristically husky voice, deepened by heavy smoking — though as headmaster he made a pact with the boys and gave up cigarettes for a pipe — and a rather baroque turn of phrase for a man who was such a dedicated medievalist. His great fidelity to the monastic life and to the choir office was shown in his last years which were spent at Downside in an active and happy retirement.



Abbot Aelred Watkin dressed in his robes as Mayor of Beccles in Suffolk, 1979

MARCO FERRERI



Philippe Noiret, Ugo Tognazzi and Andrea Ferreol in Ferreri's film *La Grande Bouffe*

Marco Ferreri, Italian film director, died of a heart attack in Paris on May 9 aged 68. He was born on May 11, 1928.

AN ICONOCLAST, revelling in provocation and black humour, Marco Ferreri took an irreverent and corrosive view of the world. He satirised, often with grotesque cruelty — but at times with a surprising tenderness — the conventions and follies of bourgeois society.

He laid bare hypocrisy with anarchical cheek. Of the thirty films he made, many were released to howls of indignation. His work was too disturbing for him ever to be accepted as a great director.

Internationally, however, he was best known for his *La Grande Bouffe* (Blow Out), in which, in an orgy of wine, food and sex, a group of friends gorge themselves to death. Opening at Cannes in 1973, its first night audience rose up in arms. Ferreri and his cast had to fight their way out of the cinema. Critics deplored it as immoral and depraved. And the French middle classes, accustomed to the bland diet of television, were outraged — perhaps above all at its blasphemies against French cuisine.

Marco Ferreri was born in Milan and intended at first to become a veterinary surgeon. But he quickly grew impatient of a student's life and left university to earn a living with a series of odd jobs.

Interested in the cinema, he launched a film magazine, but it survived only two issues. He also — alongside a job as a liquor salesman — worked in various secondary capacities on a number of documentaries and Italian neo-realist features.

But his first attempt to produce a movie flopped and, in a bid to recoup his lost finances, he went to Spain as a salesman of movie projectors.

There he met the satirical writer Raphael Azcona. They shared an abrasive sense of humour and a fascination with the bizarre, and went on to collaborate on three Spanish films. The last of these, *El Cochicito* (The Wheelchair, 1960) — about a wheelchair race — was to achieve some success at the Venice Film Festival and establish Ferreri as a member of the Buñuel school of black humourists.

Ferreri returned to Italy where — in a climate used to neo-realism and bourgeois comedy — he ran foul of the film censors with his savage satire on Catholic family life *L'ape Regina* (The Queen Bee, 1963). But, undaunted, he continued to explore the absurdities of modern morality. His *Dillinger é Morto* (Dillinger is Dead, 1969) — in which he unfolds the last hours of a suicide — was considered a masterpiece. But it was in *La Grande Bouffe* (1973) that his anarchic anti-bourgeois themes explode with greatest ferocity.

He went on to mock the disintegration of the family in *La Dernière Femme* (The Last Woman, 1976) and to continue his exploration of the break up of urban life in *Bye Bye Monkey* (1978) — his first English speaking film — in which his hero is gang raped by a bevy of women.

Unsurprisingly perhaps, his films were only rarely commercially successful. Many accused him of going to any excess — from the sexual to the cannibalistic — to provoke scandal and attention.

But other directors admired him. "Which of us is the more famous?" Federico Fellini once asked. He replied: "I don't know. But ask me who is the better director."

What many admired was his scepticism of all fixed beliefs and he managed, somehow, to continue to find financing — usually with the help of his French wife, Jacqueline, who was also his producer.

With his 1991 film *La Casa del Sorriso* (House of Smiles) — the story of a love affair in an old people's home — he won the Gold Bear in Berlin. And even though a film he made the following year never found a distributor, he went on making movies until the end of his life.

His last *Nitrato D'Argento* (Silver Nitrate) was well received at the 1996 Venice Film Festival.

He is survived by his wife Jacqueline.

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Charity: The National Sea Training Trust
Scheme including alteration of the objects of the charity
Reference: TED-16403-CDY.dot)
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Carthusian Court 12 Carthusian Street London EC1M 6EB or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

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In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, E F Harry, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 583, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LG, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 6th May 1997. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 6th May 1997
E F HARRY, FCA, Liquidator

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that meetings of the creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF on 2nd June 1997 at 12.00 noon and 12.15 pm respectively for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above Companies Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 8TH MAY 1997
D. Parkes Director

MR BALDWIN'S THANKS.

The following message from the Prime Minister was broadcast last night:

The General Strike is over, though several days will elapse before normal conditions are restored. It has ended, as I made it plain in my speech to the nation a few nights ago that it must end, without conditions entered into by the Government. No Government, confronted by such a menace, could enter into a conditional negotiation, the very undertaking of which would involve treachery to the accepted basis of our democratic constitution. Our business is not to triumph over those who have failed in a mistaken attempt. It is rather to rally them together as a whole in an attempt to restore the well-being of the nation. I shall without delay enter into negotiations with the object of adjusting those difficulties between owners and men in the coal trade, which were engaging the constant attention of the Government at the moment when the general strike unhappily emerged. We conceived it to be a matter of absolute duty to call upon the people to resist the menace of the general strike. The people of these islands responded to that appeal, as in our long history they have answered every claim made upon their love of freedom and sense of fair play. I thank everyone.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I attended (on the wireless) the Sunday evening service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, when we were invited to pray that wisdom should be vouchsafed to his Majesty's Ministers and the T.U.C. I have read and heard similar appeals by persons of light and learning, and eulogies on the good temper of the strikers. But not one word have I heard spoken by any leading divine or any other prominent person, telling us to pray for and feel grateful to the huge army of men and women, boys and girls, who are keeping us in the necessities of life with such smoothness that we can hardly imagine the difficulties, and who are so successfully struggling to bring the hosts of workers to and from their work at the risk of severe personal injury to themselves, and at the certain cost of leisure, comfort and often of their night's rest. Now that the strike is over, I hope that our spiritual pastors may find time to remedy their omissions, and that some proper further acknowledgement of the nation's gratitude may be made to those who have saved it.

Yours faithfully,
C.A.P.

ON THIS DAY

May 13, 1926

Although the miners took longer to return to work, the nation could breathe a sigh of relief and pause for a moment of self-congratulation. The accompanying letter would have been written before the broadcast message.

billion under management



■ MUSIC 1

The Junior Prom goes aquatic, and *The Times* has 500 free tickets to be won by schools



■ MUSIC 2

Judith Weir, evoking the Elephant and Castle, is featured at the Purcell Room

THE TIMES ARTS



■ MUSIC 3

Building a Library selects the best recordings of Francis Poulenc's exquisite songs



■ MUSIC 4

Bring on the little green men: *The Roswell Incident* is turned into a new opera

MUSIC: The Junior Prom introduced; plus reviews of South Bank premieres and an opera about UFOs

Water, water, everywhere . . .

The Times is offering 500 free tickets, plus travel costs, for schools to send pupils to the Junior Prom at the Albert Hall in September. Richard Morrison introduces the event, its aquatic theme, and our competition for schools

Nobody ever forgets their first Prom. The atmosphere in the Albert Hall during the two months every summer in which the BBC stages "the world's greatest music festival" is like nothing else: huge crowds, stunning music, top performers, great fun. For more than a century the Proms have been introducing new audiences, and especially young people, to classical music, and today their appeal is broader than ever.

What's more, a new initiative last year gave much younger children their first taste of Proms excitement. This was the Junior Prom, which filled the Albert Hall with 5,000 school pupils aged between 6 and 14. They heard a concert of short pieces and extracts specially designed to stimulate young ears and minds, and the event was a phenomenal success.

This season, in association with *The Times*, there will be another Junior Prom. On the afternoon of September 8, the Albert Hall will be packed with children for a programme presented by Tony Robinson (Baldrick of *Blackadder* fame) and featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra and the New London Children's Choir, conducted by Ronald Corp.

Your school can apply to buy tickets (£3 each), using the booking form on this page. But *The Times* also has 500 free tickets to be won, and if your school is successful in our competition we will also pay the travel costs for your group to come to the Albert Hall that day. We hope that this will make it possible for schools from many different regions of Britain to attend.

So what is the competition all about? Well, the title of this year's Junior Prom is "Wet Wet Wet". No, that doesn't mean that the afternoon will be an extended homage to a certain pop group. It will, however, take the subject of water as its theme. Water is the source of all life, and also the starting-point for a great deal of music.

Think, for instance, of how much music has been inspired by the sea — from ancient shanties to big romantic orchestral pieces such as Debussy's *La mer*. Or how often famous rivers have been immortalised in glorious melodies, as in Strauss's *Blue Danube Waltz* or Handel's *Water Music*, written to accompany a royal barge-trip up the Thames.

Ships and boats have also inspired many tuneful epics, from Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas *HMS Pinafore* and *The Pirates of Penzance* to Malcolm Arnold's *Padstow Lifeboat* and the lugubrious song of that melancholic Volga boatman. And of course the range of music depicting wet weather is enormous: it extends from Beethoven's *Pastoral Symphony* and Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* to musicals like *Singin' in the Rain*. Britten's *Noyes Fludde* and that cheerful children's cantata, *Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo*.

Extracts from many of these watery pieces will be featured in the Junior Prom. So we have also taken "Wet Wet Wet" as the starting point for our competition. This is what it involves. We have been recalling some of the classic British songs about the sea and sailors. They have catchy tunes, no doubt about that, and fine words too. But are they not beginning to show their age?

Consider, for instance, all those patriotic sea-songs: *Rule, Britannia*, *Hearts of Oak* and so on. Most of them were written about battles that happened more than 200 years ago. Or reflect on those silly songs about jolly, hornpipe-dancing Jack Tars with names like Bobby Shaftoe, going off to sea with "silver buckles" on his knee. Sailors, we feel, may have changed a bit since Mr Shaftoe's day.

So our competition is for children to write the words for a modern sea song. It could address an ecological issue, like pollution or whaling or melting ice-caps. It could be about the life of a present-day mariner, whether he or she is working on a deep-sea trawler, an oil-rig, or taking part in a round-the-world yacht race. It could be about a queasy experience on a cross-Channel ferry, or a cold swim at Skegness. It's up to you.

CHRIS CHRISTODOULOU



Children at last year's Junior Prom in the Albert Hall: this September the theme will be "Wet Wet Wet", with all sorts of liquid music presented by Tony Robinson

Entrants can write just a couple of verses — or as many as they want. The only condition is that all entries must be written by children under the age of 15.

Schools should then select what they feel are their best entries. Up to five can be submitted by each school. Each entry should include the age of the entrant. Our judges will be looking for imagination and a lively use of language, but they will also take age into account. And who knows? Perhaps one of the winners might find his or her words sung at the Junior Prom.

Send your entries, with the completed booking form (below left), to: The Times Junior Prom Offer, Room 4114, BBC Proms, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA. Entries should be received by Monday June 9. The normal rules for *Times* competitions apply; and the Editor's decision is final.

Please also use the entry form to order Junior Prom tickets for which you want to pay. Your chances of winning free tickets and travel will not be affected by whether you have ordered paid tickets. And if competition winners have already bought tickets, their cheques will be returned.

The names of all the winning schools will be announced in *The Times* on Tuesday June 17, and all Junior Prom tickets will be dispatched shortly afterwards. Good luck, and *bon voyage*!

COMPETITION THE TIMES

JUNIOR PROM

To book your tickets for the Junior Prom, to be held at the Royal Albert Hall at 2.30pm on Monday, September 8, simply complete and return the form below.

You can also enter *The Times* competition to win free tickets for your class. We have 500 tickets, plus travel costs to and from the concert, for a few lucky winners. (Details of how to win are in Richard Morrison's article, above.)

Please note this concert may be oversubscribed so you are advised to fill in the form to purchase tickets as well as entering the competition. Your chances of winning the competition will not be affected — all entries will be treated equally. Your form must arrive by Monday, June 9 to:

The Times Junior Prom Offer, Room 4114, BBC Proms, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA.

Tickets will be dispatched from the Royal Albert Hall by Wednesday, June 25.

JUNIOR PROM BOOKING FORM & COMPETITION ENTRY

I would like to purchase ..... tickets at £3 each for the Junior Prom on Monday, September 8 (maximum number of 100 per school).

I enclose my cheque for ..... made payable to the Royal Albert Hall.

Name of Teacher .....

Signature .....

Name of School .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Day Tel .....

If I win the competition, I would like . . . seats

Please note: some "seats" for the Junior Proms will involve places in the arena area of the hall where groups will be seated on the floor.

Please put a cross in this box if this seating area is unacceptable ☐

Maximum size of group should not exceed 100.

CHANGING TIMES

A hat-trick of world firsts

Cambridge New Music Players/ Yonty Solomon
Purcell Room

IN THEIR enthusiastic advocacy of contemporary music, the **Cambridge New Music Players** are providing an invaluable service to composers and public alike. Their typically innovative Purcell Room programme offered no fewer than three world premieres: indeed, John Woolrich's *Caprichos* was given both its first and second performances, one in each half of the evening.

Woolrich says only that his title is "borrowed from Goya". Presumably it refers to the stark quality of each of the four short movements, which manifests itself in sharply etched unisons on reeds and brass, jagged in rhythm, pungent in tone colour. Each of these terse movements is a strong, individual statement, though I cannot honestly say that my appreciation deepened after the second performance.

Simon Adams's *Serenata per undici strumenti* marks the return of a composer who abandoned music in 1980. Again the significance of the title is downplayed by the composer: Italianate influence, specifically that of Bruno Maderna (who wrote a work with the same title), is barely acknowledged. Indeed, in its first movement there are superficial similarities to the Woolrich work in its gestural nature and especially its unisons, though the second movement is more inclined to explore contrasts of timbre. Some striking ideas in evidence, but undermined by perceived hiatuses in the flow.

No such problems with David Bruce's *Flowers in Stone* (title from Paul Klee), which builds a winding-down into its formal organisation, but otherwise skilfully maintains momentum.

In addition to these three world premieres, the Players under Paul Hoskins also gave Edward Dudley Hughes's brilliantly contrived *Movements in Red*, and Judith Weir's witty, resourceful *Musicians Wrestle Everywhere* — as sympathetic an evocation of the Elephant and Castle as you are ever likely to hear.

The promising title — *Seven Deadly Sins* — of the first of the world premieres offered by **Yonty Solomon** in his piano recital the following night turned out to be somewhat unhelpful. Although each of the seven movements of Swiss composer Christiane Boesch's composition was assigned a sin, it would have been difficult to have matched them up unprompted, so undifferentiated were they.

The other premiere, *Infinite Psyche*, was by Lawrence Ball, who according to his own programme note "feels his major musical discovery as a composer is the close relationship between very slow pulse and the sense of immense peace". Had this earth-shattering discovery been communicated in some medium more structured than meandering quasi-improvisation, *Infinite Psyche* might have seemed less interminable.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Unidentified flying diction

OPERA

The Roswell Incident
Bury St Edmunds

IT IS now 50 years since the most famous UFO happening of them all, the so-called Roswell incident, subject of a film documentary and much press comment still. If an unidentified (and manned) object landed in the New Mexico desert in 1947, then everything about it was ruthlessly hushed up by the US central government.

John Hardy's new opera based on the incident was premiered by Music Theatre Wales at the Bury Festival, under the auspices of the East Anglia Year of Opera. He has taken several risks. There is no programme synopsis, which is admirable in principle — imagine going to *Tosca* for the first time and not knowing how it is going to end — but dangerous in practice: it presupposes clarity of diction that was not consistently forthcoming last Friday at the Theatre Royal. He has also composed a leading role for female child soprano, which compounds the first risk: and after a battery of electronics to set the scene, he launches his piece with a 20-minute baritone solo which, in a work in two acts of only 50 minutes each, risks a certain imbalance.

In the first act, there is an element of the protagonist, the intelligence officer Captain Bradwick, suffering a nervous crisis, not unlike Britten's Governess. Fine: much of the interest in the subject lies in why people need UFOs, as many patently do. But this promising idea is not pursued in the second part, which depends too much on face-value narrative — the gruesome and unnecessary post-mortem of an alien corpse, intervention from the Pentagon and so on. The work ends with a politically correct green message: "they", if "they" existed, were warning us about the consequences of the horrible things we are doing to each other and our planet.

Again, fine, and the *ET*-ish association of Midwich-Cuckoo aliens with children is nicely handled, but the dramatic focus of Heledd Wyn's libretto could be much tighter. Hardy's approachable score, for string quartet and keyboards, ranges from Britten-esque nerviness for the protagonist to New Age, neo-minimalist lyricism for "them". It was amplification of keyboards and voice that muddied the diction of young Sian Winstanley, otherwise wholly admirable as the Alien-Child, but Gwion Thomas got every word across as the Captain, and in several other roles as well (there is much doubling). Sadly, crucial solos for Gareth Lloyd in the second act were completely wordless — black mark.

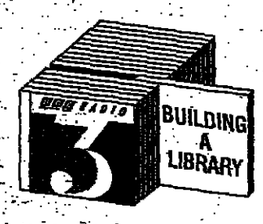
Well conducted (Michael Rafferty) and directed (Michael McCarthy), *The Roswell Incident* is already a likeable piece: some workshopping and rejigging could turn it into something rather more.

RODNEY MILNES

RADIO 3 CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

POULENC SONG SURVEY
By Gordon Stewart



POULENC said that choosing a poem for a song was a sort of instinctive thing, like falling in love. Fortunately this ultra-civilised man fell in love with a great variety of poems, so that his 153 songs cover the waterfront — from profound depths to witty glitter.

Poulenc himself is available on half of a CD (EMI CDC 7 54605-2), with his favourite singer Pierre Bernac. Well worth having, although you may not want Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears on the other half of the disc.

Poulenc approved of Gérard Souzay. Four sets of Poulenc's songs, done with tremendous understanding and character, are on Souzay's four-disc set of French songs (Philips 438 964-2), perfectly accompanied by Dalton Baldwin. Ravel, Duparc and Fauré are all there too, and it is a set to prize. But you don't get translations, and since the poems are hardly written in basic French, you may find that a drawback.

The single CDs offer gift-wrapped packages. Didier Henry does four cycles with a good pianist, plus three (Poulenc in his *enfant terrible* guise) with an instrumental ensemble (REM 311105). Very enjoyable.

Le Bal masqué, a witty piece which used to cheer Poulenc up if he was feeling down, also comes on François Le Roux's disc from Decca (Decca 452 666-2). Not all vocal music, but a charmer, with sophisticated playing from the Orchestre Nationale soloists.

Two French singers climb into a package with the brilliant pianist Pascal Rogé (Decca 436 991-2). Gilles Cachemaille, the baritone, treats Poulenc's music not like an admirer, but like a lover. They include the wicked *Chansons gaillardes*, settings of anonymous blokish poems from the 17th century. Catherine Dubosc is a bright French soprano. This is a good buy.

Clever programming from Graham Johnson enlivens two discs with Dame Felicity Lott. They are alone together for Forlane (UCD 16730), with six of the sets of songs, including the fine *Tel jour, telle nuit*. Beautifully sung and played, with admirably detailed French style. There are hints of over-refinement — Poulenc wanted his music performed as if it were being improvised — but his music will take it. The other disc, Voyage à Paris (Hyperion CDA 66147, £14.49), ranges happily through the songs. Lott is the lead singer with the Songmakers' Almanac, singing almost everything. If you're first-time buying, this is the one to get.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk*

● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Schubert's piano duets*



■ THEATRE

Jeremy Sams has history on his mind, as he directs a new production of *Marat/Sade* for the National



■ OPINION

Bernard Levin once met Maria Callas. Which is why he doesn't believe in the new West End play, *Master Class*

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ POP

Aerosmith fall short of their reputation as the world's greatest party band in a lacklustre Manchester gig



■ TOMORROW

From the bright lights of Broadway: Benedict Nightingale reports on the latest New York shows

Talking over the asylum

THEATRE: **Heather Neill** meets Jeremy Sams, director of the NT's new staging of *Marat/Sade*

Writer, composer, pianist, translator and director, Jeremy Sams is accustomed to various languages and disciplines, which is perhaps why he can say of directing *Marat/Sade* for the National Theatre: "It's only on one level, really; it's about putting on a play in an asylum during the French Revolution."

Peter Weiss's play, *The Persecution and Assassination of Marat as Portrayed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade*, was made famous here in Peter Brook's 1964 RSC production, part of the Theatre of Cruelty season. It featured a scarcely known young actress called Glenda Jackson as Charlotte Corday, the woman from Caen who murdered the French revolutionary leader Jean Paul Marat in his bath.

"We've gone back to the German," Sams says. "Peter Brook put a slant on the script — as every director does — and suppressed and rearranged scenes. The published text is a record of his production." Apart from the author, who died in 1982, most of the creative team from the 1960s is still around. Back then, Adrian Mitchell contributed verse to Geoffrey Skelton's English translation, and does so again. "We've cooked the books a bit: for instance, the orchestra is visible throughout, so Adrian has added a couple of lines," Sams says, and quotes with relish: "Our orchestra — the cream of their profession — not liable to clinical depression." Richard Peaslee's original, "wonderful" music will once again cause a frisson.

The piece, set in 1808, is the ultimate play-within-a-play. The inmates of the asylum at Charenton mount a performance for visitors, acting out the murder of the Jacobin Marat by Corday, of the rival revolutionary faction, the Girondists. The playwright is Sade, an inmate, and the characters are played by patients suffering from a variety of mental illnesses: Corday is narcoleptic, given to falling asleep without warning; Marat is played by a paranoiac; the Girondist Duperret by an erotomaniac.

"The first thing we investigated," Sams says, "was who the actors, the characters beneath the characters, are. And what tricks is the marquis pulling? How is he trying to influence and manipulate his actors, and how will they respond to that? Why, for instance, has the marquis given the Corday character

> ‘Sade causes the lunatics pain, but he doesn't care’

lines about sleep? The part is either going to screw her up or liberate her. And it's the same for all of them. Sade doesn't know how it's going to get out of control, but he knows there's a spin on it. Sex is the wild card in the asylum. He causes the lunatics pain, but he doesn't care; he thinks of them as disposable." The marquis, of course, plays himself. He has devised dialogues with Marat to air his views on nature, ethics, sexuality, politics and imagination.

The NT actors each worked up a glossier on his or her inmate character. The experience of rehearsal has been, says Sams, intense, personal, often painful. "There are parallels between acting and lunacy — making something up and calling it 'real', inventing an intact alternative reality." So here are the actors, playing lunatic actors playing revolutionary figures, drawing on their own experience as actors and "actors". What was that about one level?

Sams is aware of historical resonances, those of the 1960s as well as the 1800s. "The shadows of Auschwitz and Hiroshima hang heavily over the work. It was still a time of German expiation for the war [although Weiss wasn't part of that; he had gone into exile in Sweden in 1938]. The Bomb is ever-present, especially in the description of the guillotine. For Weiss, Napoleon was Hitler. Audiences supply their own resonances and references, but it seems as relevant now as ever."

The premise of *Marat/Sade* is historically accurate: "There were plays put on at Charenton. Sade was a patient there and did write plays for the inmates. People came to scoff and went away amazed. Actors from the Comédie Française used to guest star with the lunatics. Drama therapy was part of the treatment."

If this seems humane and modern, it was an effect of the French Revolution: all people, including lunatics, had rights. Coulmier, the asylum director, wanted to show off what strides his patients were making.

Sams has investigated the reality of life for asylum inmates, especially their pecking order. "It's not what you'd think. The guards are quite low. And, of course, in the play Sade is at the top of the tree." Sade, as played by David Calder, has such a powerful manipulative presence that Sams has found himself, only half jokingly, deferring to him as director.

Charenton will be suggested on the Olivier's in-the-round space, with 31 performers in view throughout. "You feel observed all the time — you can't play tricks as much — but it's liberating," Sams says. He is anxious to avoid a freak-show effect. "I want people to say 'I know what it's like to feel that much pain'."

Marat/Sade is intensely theatrical, with music, movement, debate, sex, violence and suspense. "It's a gala piece," Sams says. "It is every genre put on at Charenton and all at once."

● *Marat/Sade opens tomorrow at the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252)*

PETER TRIEVNOR



"It's on one level, really; it's about putting on a play in an asylum during the French Revolution," says Jeremy Sams

Singing no one's praises

SECOND OPINION:

Bernard Levin on the fact and fiction of Callas

Ah yes, but you didn't hear Callas in her prime, and I did. More, much more, I went behind the curtain after the cheers had died out and I brought her a posy of flowers, *and she kissed me on the cheek*. Indeed, so besotted was I, I went to Italy to hear her in Rome, but this time I didn't get a kiss.

Ah well. We have Patti LuPone in *Master Class*, at the Queens Theatre, and I have to say, with heavy heart, that although LuPone is a very good actress, to turn her into Callas was something of a disaster. Indeed, I thought for a moment that I was witnessing a pleasant German *Hausfrau* stirring the pot.

The truth is that LuPone does not look like Callas, does not sound like Callas, and does not sing like Callas. (Well, we can excuse the third mistake.) The truth is that *Master Class* has not enough matter; we could see all the players straining to fill up the play, but they can't: we were watching a play that should have been half a play.

There are a number of good bits; and one tremendous bit. It was Callas being forced by Onassis (who, I should think, was one of the most revolting human beings ever to walk on earth) to have an abortion when she was carrying his child. LuPone took that passage so powerfully that the whole theatre froze — not even a cough.

But as I was saying, I heard Callas in her prime, and you didn't. Sorry.

POP: Golden oldies party on; and America honours its rock legends

A case of bop till they drop

Aerosmith
Manchester

In theory, hard rock survivors Aerosmith are the ultimate party animal. In their Seventies heyday, this party involved heavy drug and alcohol abuse. Since cleaning up a decade ago, however, the Boston quintet have supposedly channelled all that libidinous energy into their music. Cleverly combining their gritty, bluesy roots with the more polished heavy rock of the Eighties, they conquered the MTV generation and became living legends of lucrative longevity.

Recently, though, cracks started appearing in this fairy tale. Aerosmith came close to splitting after parting company with their long-serving manager, Tim Collins. Collins subsequently claimed that singer Steven Tyler was using drugs again, rumours fuelled by the lengthy and tortuous recording of the band's latest album *Nine Lives*. Indeed, even the title sounds like a knowing allusion to the singer's reputation for Dionysian excess.

But whatever the truth, Tyler looked absurdly healthy when Aerosmith played Manchester's Nynex Arena on Saturday. He remains a remarkable performer, his 50-year-old body lean and compact, his face simultaneously feminine and feral. Although frequently likened to Mick Jagger, he is more like a shaggy-maned Rudolf Nureyev, while his tireless strutting and saccharine harmonising recall the perfectionist showmanship of Freddie Mercury. The rest of the band, alas, proved less charismatic. In a lethargic first half-hour, Aerosmith failed to ignite much enthusiasm with either their former smash hit *Love in an Elevator* or their current, more clumsy single, *Falling in Love is Hard on the Knees*. Perhaps the juvenile puns and lascivious innuendos simply sounded ridiculous coming from middle-aged men, or maybe they just weren't trying. Admittedly the excitement did escalate through this 90-minute show, but it was a bumpy ride. Faster tracks from the new album such as *Sweet Taste of India* or *The Farm* were competently played but devoid of any spark. The melodic power ballads, an Aerosmith speciality, proved more digestible, with new composition *Hole in my Soul* holding its own against the sombre classic *Janie's got a Gun* and the majestic self-pity of *Crying*.

But despite these sporadic highlights Aerosmith fell short of their reputation as the world's greatest party band. By the time they bowed out with their most celebrated hit, the funky *Walk this Way*, half the audience were already taking their advice and heading for the exits.

STEPHEN DALTON

Bum note in the harmony

John Clarke at the Rock'n'roll Hall of Fame awards in Ohio

Perhaps the most enduring image of last week's fulsome, if sometimes overblown 12th annual induction ceremony to the rock'n'roll Hall of Fame in Cincinnati, Ohio, belonged to a group that didn't perform on the night. But what stayed with you was the sight of a bleached Michael Jackson anxiously squeezing close to Diana Ross, while keeping a small but noticeable distance from his brothers.

Minutes before, the giant television screen had shown vintage footage of an elfin-faced Michael leading the Jackson Five through their greatest hits. Back together, Michael, Tito, Jackie, Marlon and Jermaine paid tribute to Motown boss Berry Gordy, who joined them on stage. "He promised us four No 1 records," said Michael, "and he delivered them all."

At least Jackson, having achieved superstardom while still, so to speak, in short pants, had the advantage of youth over most of the evening's other inductees. As we were reminded by Jann Wenner, the Hall of Fame chairman and founder of *Rolling Stone*, it was now a staggering 30 years since the summer of love. So, when 1960s icons Crosby, Stills and Nash appeared to collect their well-earned award, it was a shock to see a middle-aged and paunchy David Crosby and a greying Stephen Stills and Graham Nash. But the magic was rekindled once the group performed, and the three-part harmonies came winging down from the stage.

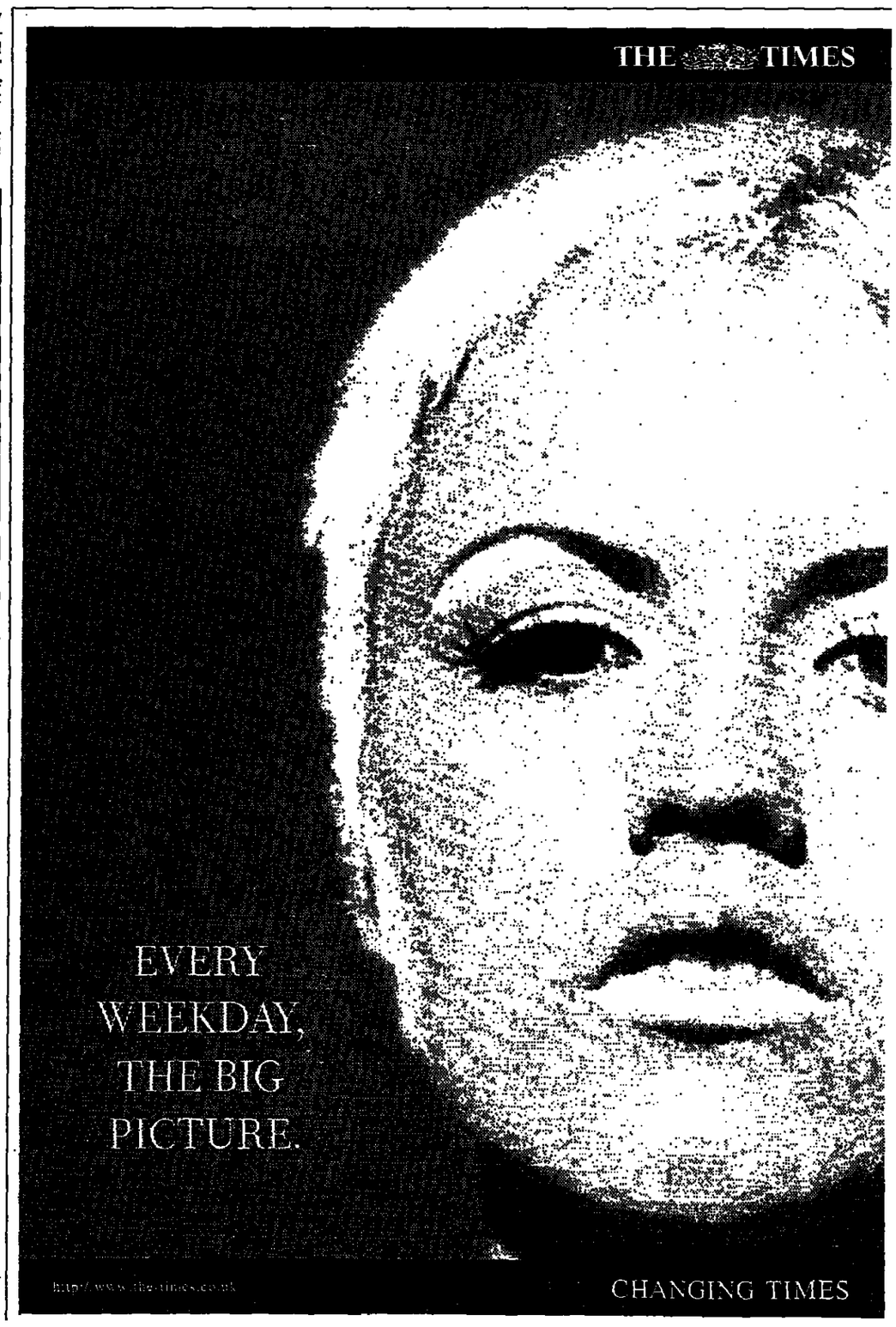
There was more harmony from the rock survivors who gained the biggest ovation of the night, the Bee Gees, who within the space of a few minutes managed to reprise *To Love Somebody*, *Massachusetts*, *Words*, *How Deep is Your Love*, *Jive Talkin'*, *Stayin' Alive*, and *You Should be Dancing*.

It was hard not to warm to an event which celebrated the major stars of rock, but also paid tribute to its roots. Gospel queen Mahalia Jackson was honoured by a heartfelt version of her *Didn't it Rain* by Mavis Staples, and bluegrass pioneer Bill Monroe was remembered by Ricky Skaggs and Emmylou Harris duetting to superb effect on *Blue Moon of Kentucky*.

But it was perhaps the roots of funk that came over best in the stunning opening set by the George Clinton-led Parliament/Funkadelic. Dressed in a large white wig and giving a sledgehammer demonstration of what P-Funk was all about, Clinton and the band proved one of the more worthy award winners.

It was a view shared by the man who inducted them, the small but perfectly formed artist formerly known as Prince. "I went to see them and they frightened me," he said, which probably explained why he looked so nervous.

But it was an evening which in the end left you flat rather than inspired. Missing was a sense of rebellion that had fuelled this rock'n'roll revolution. If pop is about Michael Jackson receiving awards, it is also about Jarvis Cocker showing us his backside. On a night when performances were respectful rather than galvanising, a touch of Jarvis was desperately needed.





■ VISUAL ART 1

Berlin succeeds where London has failed, with a blockbuster show of innovative 20th-century art



■ VISUAL ART 2

Treasures of Indian and Islamic art are showcased in *Splendours of the East* at the Spink gallery . . .

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

. . . while Bill Jacklin's views of New York are given space at Marlborough Fine Art . . .



■ VISUAL ART 4

. . . and the postwar bohemian art of F.N. Souza is the subject of a retrospective at Julian Hartnoll

AROUND THE LONDON GALLERIES

BILL JACKLIN has recently been the only non-American artist (out of 24) to produce work for the new airport at Washington DC. He suspects that nobody remembered he was not American — after all, he has been *living mainly in New York* since 1984. In fact, he does not come over in his new exhibition, *New York City — The Collective Image*, as decidedly of any particular nationality. And yet, although his subject is New York, his manner is not quite *that of a native*. As Hockney in Los Angeles saw aspects, beauties even, that would strike no American as extraordinary, so Jacklin retains the outsider's heightened awareness. But *more importantly he remains*, for all his acute observation, *the kind of artist* who carries his own world round with him, and constantly recreates it. In Jacklin's New York, as in Jacklin's Hong Kong a couple of years back, and *once in Jacklin's London* or Jacklin's Oxfordshire, there are strong contrasts, almost a pitched battle, between the light and the dark. His people become patterns, just as, when he turned from *minimal abstraction to representation*, his patterns became people. The constancy of inspiration is extraordinary: *the light moves round* the canvas; the eye seems to go in and out of focus as it travels over a crowded audience with flags or the teeming passengers in Grand Central Station. This is one *of his best shows, brilliantly* inventive, rigorously consistent with what has gone before.

Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, W1 (0171-629 5161), until May 31

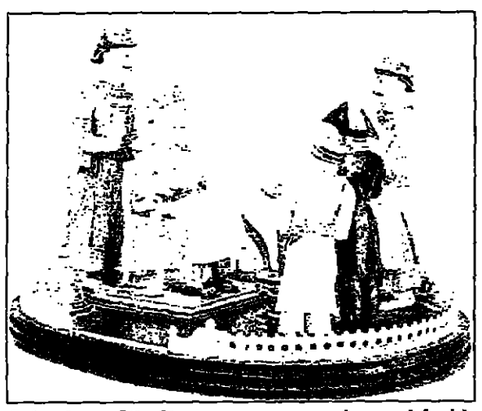
☐ TITLES of shows probably do not matter very much, provided they produce the right general effect. The word "treasures" in a title suggests gold and glitter, and will usually bring in the punters, but woe betide any *treasures show which does* not deliver its due quota. "Splendours", as in the current Spink show *Splendours of the East*, is less committal, perhaps more refined. What you might expect, given that the show consists of Indian and Islamic works of art, is *the elaborate and the ornate*, gilt rather than gold, semi-precious rather than precious. That is precisely what the show delivers. There are richly polychrome Turkish tiles, intricately chased ceremonial weapons, jade and enamel and, perhaps most fetching of all, some splendid European-influenced *ivory pieces from the subcontinent*. Notable among these are an exquisite 17th-century cabinet from Sri Lanka, with carved decorations of Adam and Eve no doubt suggested by *contemporary Dutch woodcuts, and* a quaint painted model group from early 19th-century India, commemorating the reception of a British official by a local ruler. Who would have thought splendours could be so much fun?

Spink, 5 King Street St James's, SW1 (0171-930 7888), until May 23

☐ DURING his heyday on the London art scene in the Fifties and Sixties, Francis Newton (generally known *simply as F.N.) Souza* always seemed to have something exotic about him. This was no doubt because there was something exotic: he came from Goa, and showed evidence sometimes, not only of a luxuriant, subtropical imagination, but of *more specific reference to* both the Portuguese and the Indian strands in that curious and complex culture. All the same, he spoke the language of the tribe, and the London tribe then was *frequently gathered round* the kitchen sink. The scratchy, angular style of draughtsmanship in vogue at the time is much in evidence in the retrospective at Julian Hartnoll. Although *the full-breasted naked* women look a bit baroque for the average bed-sit, the austerities of that faraway pre-Beatle period still peek through. The question of what happened next is not *completely answered, but we* gather that he went to America and became a hermit. With the renewal of interest in the art of postwar bohemia, this seems the perfect moment for reassessment.

Julian Hartnoll, 14 Mason's Yard, SW1 (0171-839 3842), until May 24

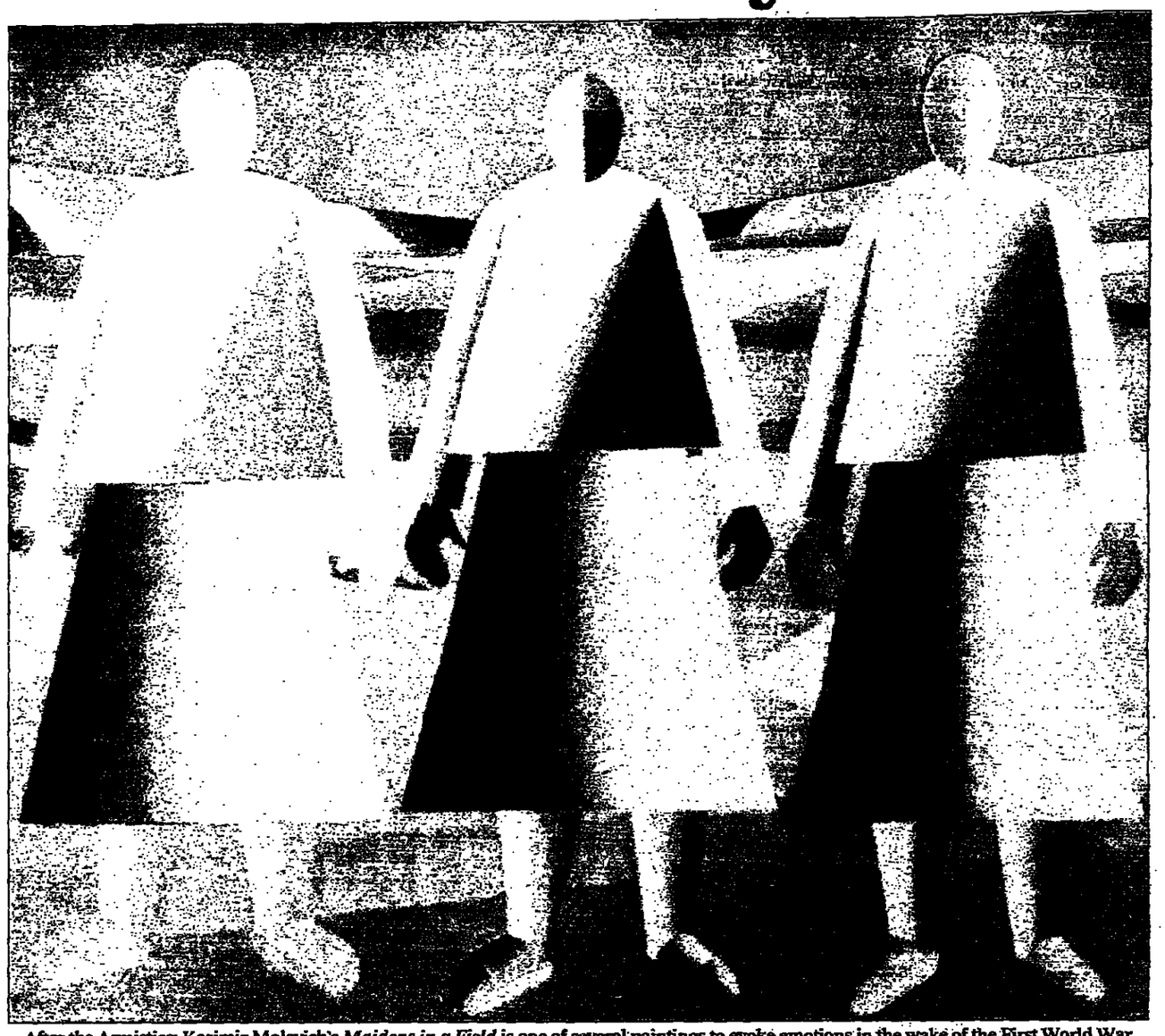
JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR



Splendour of the East: a commemorative model with painted and gilded ivory figures (c 1830-40)

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** on Berlin's revelatory 20th-century show

Mods for every mood



After the Armistice: Kasimir Malevich's *Maidens in a Field* is one of several paintings to evoke emotions in the wake of the First World War

Until its sudden cancellation, by far the biggest London exhibition of the year was scheduled as *The Age of Modernism*. In an unprecedented act of collaboration, the Royal Academy would have joined forces with the Hayward Gallery, the Whitechapel Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery to present an autumn blockbuster. Twentieth-century art at its most innovative was to be surveyed through more than 400 works, charting the revolutionary changes in this fragmented, perpetually restless era.

Difficulties with securing loans for long periods meant that, in the end, this extraordinarily ambitious show is only being staged at its initial venue in Berlin: the mighty Martin-Gropius-Bau, a lavishly embellished 19th-century showpiece. In the main, it proves capacious enough to display all four sections of the exhibition without strain.

Despite the wrist-cracking weight of the catalogue, and the unwise claim that "a comprehensive survey" is on offer, the show is ruthlessly selective. It had to be. A more inclusive approach would result in appalling congestion, along with an inability to give *landmark achievements* the prominence they deserve. The omissions were bound to be painful, and some are puzzling. Only eight British artists are on view, most of them represented by a single work. The show is an overwhelmingly male affair, with nine women and 121 men. Early 20th-century sculpture is hard to find, while contemporary practitioners as eminent as Anthony Caro are nowhere. No artist under 40 has been included, thereby ensuring that the provocative new art of the 1990s is much missed.

To set against these frustrating lacunae, though, the show has an awesome abundance of first-rank work. The initial section, Reality and Distortion, opens with a formidable *Seated Female Nude* by Picasso. Painted in 1908, just after the explosive advent of *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*, this figure announces the birth of a rough-hewn, barbaric vision. Picasso's uncompromising toughness is paired with the lyrical audacity of Matisse at the same period. But the rest of the show proves that its selectors, Christos Joachimides and Norman Rosenthal, prefer Picasso to his great rival and exclude Matisse's radiant late cut-outs altogether.

The Cubist room is marvellous, emphasising the austere melancholy of Picasso's great *Accordionist* by juxtaposing it with the clangorous exuberance of Delaunay's *The Eiffel Tower*. The machine age is celebrated in all its dynamism next door, where the Futurists fill their space with rapturous energy. And Expressionism is given still more prominence, even if Lehmbruck's attenuated busts contrast oddly with rasping images of cabaret and circus performers by Kirchner and Nolde.

The trauma of the First World War should have been given greater emphasis. But Kokoschka's vulnerable *Knight Errant*, no less than *Kirchner's stabbing vision* of naked, vulnerable artillerymen in the shower-room, are both outstanding. When the post-Armistice "return to orders" arrives, it is powerfully summarised by Picasso's monumental classicism, Malevich's peasant girls lined up like metallic soldiers, and an arresting picture of running athletes by the Russian Alexander Deineka, the only *unfamiliar* name in the exhibition.

Does he really deserve a place here? The question needs asking, when so many better-known artists have been excluded. Pressures of space suddenly become impossible to ignore in the overcrowded rooms devoted to portraiture. But among the throng of canvases, a neurotic Schiele, a wistful Modigliani and a baleful Beckmann stand out. Spencer's merciless *Self-Portrait with Patricia Preece* looks thoroughly at home next to Dix and the equally steely Schad. So does Freud's *The Painter's Mother*, one of the finest later works by an artist whose early years were spent in Berlin.

After such a dense display, I was relieved to encounter the open-plan layout of the second section. Its presiding genius is Duchamp, whose subversive *ready-made objects bought* on shopping sprees are still so influential. The interplay between Dada and Pop Art, with their shared love of everyday trash, is rewardingly explored. Early Rauschenberg here *seems like the heir to* Schwitters, while Warhol's stacked Brillo Pad boxes descend directly from Duchamp's department-store purchases.

Even so, Warhol's lacerating car-crash pictures mark him out from Duchamp's witty provocation. As the section proceeds, the mood darkens even further. Kienholz's *Illegal Operation*, furtively lit by a single bulb, is unbearably sad and squalid. All the props in Beuys's theatrical *Earthquake in the Palace* seem about to be pulverised, and the scrap-metal rocket-launchers by the short-lived Fino Pascali bristle with the Cold War tensions of the 1960s.

Above all, though, the diversity of materials shows just how liberating Duchamp was. Nauman's nimble readiness to move from aluminium to neon tubing and video would be unthinkable without Duchamp's example.

Upstairs, a startlingly different direction is explored. If Picasso's 1908 *masterpieces* made the opening downstairs room so powerful, here Kandinsky's stunning early abstractions have a similar impact. His two grandest *Compositions*, on loan from Moscow and St Petersburg, were both painted in 1913. For all their obsession with apocalypse and the Last Judgment, they are an ecstatic proclamation. For the artist's freedom to enter an abstract universe, and roam around its gravity-flouting expanses, is claimed with exhilarating panache.

> "There is an awesome abundance here of first-class material"

Never again would Kandinsky paint with such sensuous vivacity. Malevich's nearby black-on-white paintings of a square, a circle and a cross appear forbidding and crudely handled by comparison. His extremism, though, still has the ability to astound. However many references to sound waves, aeroplanes and football players may lurk in these austere paintings, their insistence on purged, primal form is revolutionary.

So is the work of his most zealous Russian contemporaries. Their paintings, especially between 1916 and 1918, seem to prophesy later developments. Rozanova anticipates both Newman and Rothko, Popova looks forward to Matisse's final period, and Matiushin's astonishing *Movement in Space* lays the foundation for all the stripe paintings of the 1960s.

The urge to concentrate on an abstract *language flourishes* at times of international *crisis*. Kandinsky and the other Russians did much of their finest work during the First World War. In New York Abstract Expressionism flowered when the Allied struggle against Hitler was at its bloodiest. The turmoil of war nurtured the tempestuousness of Pollock and de Kooning, but it also impelled Newman and Reinhardt to pare their canvases down to absolute essentials. They, in turn, helped to encourage the Minimalists, and Richard Long's *Standing Stone Line* holds its own with ease near André's cracked wooden posts and Judd's gleaming industrialised units.

Irrational impulses could not, however, be held in abeyance everywhere. De Chirico, *the founding father of the* final section, inaugurated the *Modernist love affair* with dreams. Surrealism is well represented, in the free-association looseness of Miró as much as the painstaking precision of Dalí. But I was especially fascinated by the *later rooms, where Moore's* dream-like strangeness is well-emphasised at the expense of his familiar earth mother obsession.

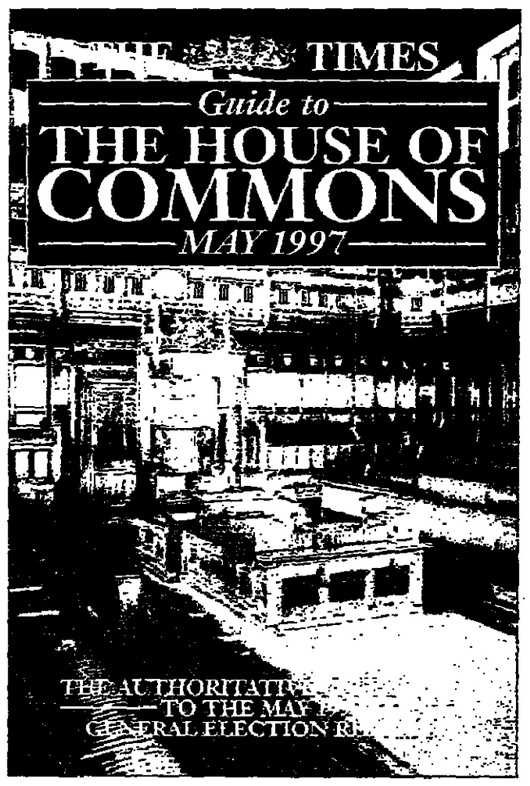
Hopper, who could so easily have appeared in a Realist context, is presented here almost as a visionary. I enjoyed the unpredictable pairing of Morandi with Balthus. Kiefer's anguished meditations on the legacy of Fascism have never been seen in a Surrealist light before. Bar his forest painting can be linked with Ernst and his empty, echoing hall with de Chirico. As for *Viola's Anthem*, its howling-wolf soundtrack, snake in the tree, eye operation and soundlessly screaming girl all prove that video art can be as unsettling as a nightmare.

This epic, constantly illuminating exhibition closes on a hallucinatory note, with Robert Gober's trousered leg projecting from a blank, white wall. It looks like the severed limb of a corpse, as snuffed-out as the candle rising so inexplicably from the equally waxen flesh. Against all the odds, though, the candle also sounds a stubborn note of *faith*. The century's art may be coming to an end with mortality in mind, but its ability to haunt us remains as potent and unpredictable as ever.

● The Age of Modernism, *Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin (0049-30 2548674) until July 27*

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■ MIME

Marcel Marceau goes through the motions as he celebrates 50 years of Bip at the Festival Hall



■ FESTIVAL

A new staging of J.M. Barrie's classic *Peter Pan* is one of the highlights of Glasgow's Mayfest

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 1

Julie-Alanah Brighten is the fairer half of *Beauty and the Beast*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Dominion Theatre



■ CHOICE 2

Brad Fraser's drama, *Poor Super Man*, opens tonight

VENUE: At the Royal Exchange, Manchester

Here's one I performed earlier

MARILYN KINGWILL



Marcel Marceau, cocooned in the fug of distant triumphs, has become a moving museum piece

Marcel Marceau returned to London on Saturday and there are two things to report. The first is the show the audience enjoyed at the Festival Hall. They saw one of the enduring theatre artists of the 20th century, the man who has made a style of white-faced mime his own personal brand. Indeed, they applauded the very first appearance of this figure, dressed in his trademark white tunic, bell-bottom flares flapping, white dance shoes splayed, greasepaint-

Marcel Marceau
Festival Hall

gashed mouth agrimace. They chuckled, sighed and held their breath as he went through paces familiar from the past 50 years.

The first half comprised some of Marceau's mimodramas, including *The Painter, The Small Café* and *Youth, Maturity, Old Age and Death*. The audience adored these bijou studies sketching patterns of hope and defeat. They were even more enamoured of the pieces in the second half, featuring Marceau's creation Bip, for which he dons a small grey tunic and concave top hat replete with red flower. Marceau's international tour celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his first piece of Bippery. Various old favourites were there: Bip as lion-tamer, Bip as a street musician, Bip and the dating service. The ovation at the end was for a lone performer who creates a world of feeling and metaphor out of the simple dynamics of gesture.

Now to report the show your critic saw. Here was a mime going through too-familiar motions. Here was the boulevardier Marceau, whose array of eye contact with the audience marks the consummate crowd-pleaser. But what lies at the bottom of his showmanship? His mini-dramas appear to contain a wealth of idiosyncrasy, but this serves to recycle dusty caricatures rather than anything that springs from modern life.

You cannot gainsay Marceau's performance technique, more extraordinary still for a seventysomething whose physical feats are the envy of much younger men. But if you judge an artist by his continued creativity, you realise that Marceau stands in the shadow of his younger self. He presents himself as the embodiment of a classic style, but the line between genius and guardianship has been crossed. Cocooned in the fug of distant triumphs, he has become a moving museum piece. This is valuable, because he embodies for new audiences a once-influential style of mime. But it makes him less than living: a virtual Marceau, transplanted from a time when his every move mattered.

ANDY LAVENDER

Off to a flying start

FESTIVAL

Mayfest
Glasgow

As a festival Mayfest is a queer beast, expanding and contracting depending on the perceived appetite for its offerings, yet still chasing its tail in search of a solid identity. Ring out the old, bring in the new could be the theme of this year's two major productions, which see the Tron Theatre's new artistic director, Irina Brown, setting down her manifesto with her first production, a bizarrely unsettling post-glasnost Russian play, while Tony Graham bows out of TAG theatre company with a new *Peter Pan*.

This spirit of change is mirrored in Alexei Shipenko's **Lavochkin-5**, set among the confused debris of a Russia knee-deep in change, but clinging to its former glories for dear life. Miriam Karlin plays an ancient relic of the aristocracy, incontinent and bed-bound. Her former flying-ace son, played by David Hargreaves, swigs eau de cologne in between recounting old soldiers' tales of piloting the fighter aircraft that gives the play its title. This is too classic a symbol of liberation, taking flight and crawling from the wreckage. The fact that the two protagonists spend the bulk of the play on their backs speaks volumes. Only an anthem gets them on their feet.

The pair spar mercilessly, abusing each other via scatological vulgarities centred on bodily functions, the only intimacy it is possible to share. A silent observer/fantasy figure watches proceedings from beneath a postman's cap, stepping out like an extra from *Cabaret*. Imagine Steptoe and son minus the distractions of sex, or any double act from Beckett's long line of co-dependants. There are shades, too, in its linguistic twists and turns of Tom Murphy's *Bailegangaire* and Jim Cartwright's *Bed*.

The translation by Brown and Iain Heggie blesses profanity with near poetic status, yet on the first night at least its full music is rarely brought out in a big, brave ramshackle production full of heart but simply too languid for its own good. Where the complex cut and thrust of things should be delivered in a rapid-fire, machinegun approach, it is savoured with an over-reverent relish which never allows it to break free. And when things do look set to soar, albeit in a barking-mad way, the whole thing gets far too excited and loses the plot.

Only in the last third, when the nonplussed neighbours shrug their shoulders and carry on with life regardless, do things move at anything like the pace they should. This is the flux and disarray of a nation about to sprout wings once more.

There is flying of a different kind in Stuart Paterson's new version of **Peter Pan** for TAG, at the Tramway. Paterson has mastered the art of injecting new zest and colour into classic children's stories and affording his audience the respect they deserve. Even then, though, they are normally trundled out only at panto time, so J.M. Barrie's high-flying tale of the terminal adolescent looking for somewhere nice to land seems a curious if worthy idea to skip around the maypole with.

This is typical TAG, alive with director Tony Graham's regular box of tricks, from the big open staging to the irrelevant if well-drilled gymnastic displays that do nothing but distract from the job at hand. Here there is even a trio of multi-functional poles which double up occasionally as isometric bars.

It is a charmingly acted, lively affair, with a sparky Susan Nisbet in the title role, light years away from the Lost Boys are nestling down in a cardboard city-like Never-Land, yet are far too thigh-slappingly cheeky for the point — if intended — to come across. Hook's sidekick Smee is a Little Englander clad in Union Jack T-shirt and knotted hanky, while Hook somewhat tiresomely strokes his false appendage with seemingly lascivious intent.

But there is more to *Peter Pan* than meets the eye. In a way its analysis of emotionally stunted mummies' boys up for fun is a precursor to the current mad-for-it lad culture, where getting high as a kite is all that matters, and responsibilities are for cissies and grown-ups. The ultimate message in *Peter Pan* is to have an awfully big adventure while you can, but in the end get a grip. A bit more boldness here might make Paterson's faithful version of things into more than mere kids' stuff.

NEIL COOPER

LONDON

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alastair Hendry as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Pace-ington. Unique in the film, the Beast does not stay the same size throughout. **Dominion**, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Opens tonight 7pm. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm

ELEKTRA The Royal Opera's production of Strauss's controversial operatic psychoanalysis, with a libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, opens tonight. Deborah Polaski and Hildegard Behrens share the demanding title role with Hanna Marti as and Nadine Secunde in the role of Chrysothemis and Felicity Palmer and Jane Henschel taking turns to play Klytemnestra. Sung in German. **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tonight, 7.30pm Then May 17, 19, 22, 24, 27 and 31 at 7.30pm.

LONTANO Celaine de la Martinez conducts the second of three concerts at St John's in celebration of the music group's 21st anniversary. The evening begins with the British premiere of Stefan Wolpe's Piece for Trumpet and Seven Instruments (Alistair Mackie trumpet) and Edgard Varese's Density 21.5, also heard even on flutes. Elliott Carter's Triple Duo and the world premiere of Bernard Benoliel's Boomerangs complete the programme.

FAT JANET IS DEAD Last year's Playwriting Festival winner Steven Smith's comedy, set on a south London estate during New Year's Eve 1979 where an unlikely trio celebrates the approaching decade. Jessica Dromgoole directs. **Warehouse**, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060). Opens tonight 6.30pm. Tue, 6.30pm. Wed-Sat, 8pm. Sun 5pm. Until June 15

GABRIEL Lisa Harrow plays the Guernsey widow who rescues a handsome amnesiac (Stephen Billington) washed up on a beach in 1942. Fiona Buffini directs the last play in the Site Specific season, written by her sister Moira Buffini. **Soho**, 21 Dean Street, W1 (0171-420 0022). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until May 24

THE GOODBYE GIRL Gary Wilmot, Ann Crumb and Shezwae Powell in the Hamlisch/Ziggel musical version of Neil Simon's play. Dancer dumped by one actor and landed with another gradually finds love. Ash Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm mats Wed 3pm, Sat, 5pm

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING OSCAR Micheal MacLiammoir's celebrated tribute to Wilde movingly revived by Simon Callow, conveying the wit, the gravity, the distress. **Savoy**, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

KING LEAR Ian Holm magnificent, the performance of a lifetime. Richard Eyre's farewell production. **National (Cottesloe)**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Thurs, 7pm; mat Thurs, 1pm. In rep

MY MOTHER SAID I NEVER SHOULD Charlotte Keatley's classic exploration of the mother-daughter bond, said to be the most frequently performed play in Britain. Dominic Cooke directs Jane Lowe, Pauline Lynch, Grace Mitchell and Robyn Moore for Oxford Stage Co's touring production. **Young Vic**, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Tue and Thurs, 2pm. Until May 31.

POPCORN Ben Elton's blistering comedy about movie violence. A Tarantinoesque director gets his comeuppance when a couple of serial killers blame him for their misdeeds. **Apollo**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm

RESTLESS HEART Prototype Anouilh heroine who cannot forget her crime of family poverty even though loved by a rich young man. *La Sauvage*, updated from 1934 and directed by Amy Rassaz for Charcoonray Productions. **Riverside Studios**, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2255). Previews today and tomorrow, 7.45pm. Opens May 15, 7.45pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Until June 1

THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES Peter Bowles both touching and comic as Molière's deluded hero. Eric Sykes excellent as his flicker-fingered servant. Peter Hall directs. Transfer from a successful run at the Piccadilly Theatre. **Comedy**, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm. Until July 26

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061). Tonight 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

CHELTENHAM Oxford Stage Company performs **The Comic Mysteries**, John Retallack's celebrated production of Dario Fo's *Mistero Buffo*. New Testament tales delivered in commedia dell'arte style. **Everyman**, Regent Street (01242 572573). Tonight-Fri 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm. Until May 17.

GLASGOW Opera on a Shoestring presents a new production of Puccini's **Tosca**, with Christina Dunwoodie in the title role. Directed by Robert Love, controller of drama at STV (Citizens' Theatre), tonight, Thursday, Saturday May 19, 21 and 23, 7.30pm). From tonight to Saturday (8pm), in the Circle Studio of the Citizens' Theatre, Multi Theatre performs **Whisky Galore**, Compton Mackenzie's comic tale of the Hebridean island of Todday, in the style of a 1940s BBC Radio production. **Mayfest** (0141-287 5000) for tickets and further information

MANCHESTER Marianne Elliott directs Brad Fraser's tough and moving **Poor Super Man**, where five men, something...are entangled in love and obsession, betrayal and regret. **Royal Exchange**, Upper Campfield Street (0161-833 9833). Opens tonight, 7.50pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 2.30pm. Until June 7

NOTTINGHAM Javier de Frutos, Imlata Dance Company, the Healing Theatre of Ivoin and Rosie Lee and the Balanescu Quartet are among the leading artists taking part in the eighth **Nott Dance** festival from today. **Nott Dance** (0115-941 0773) for tickets and information. Until May 31

LONDON GALLERIES

Art First Wilhelmina Barns-Graham, Janet Pence (0171-734 0396). **Association of Photographers** Picture the Samaritans (0171-608 1445). **Chris Beetles** Hercules Brabazon Brabazon 1821-1906 (0171-839 7551). **Delfina** Ludger Gerdes (0171-357 6600). **European Academy/ Accademia Italiana** Serenissima: the Arts of Fashion in Venice from the 13th to the 18th Century (0171-225 0303). **National** Discovering the Italian Baroque: The Denis Mahon Collection (0171-747 2885). **Redfern** Michael Rothenstein: Watercolours; Tom Hammick: New Paintings (0171-734 1722). **Tate** Painterly Pop (0171-887 8000). **Theo Waddington** Ann Dowker (0171-434 1584)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
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☐ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES** Peter Bowles both touching and comic as Molière's deluded hero. Eric Sykes excellent as his flicker-fingered servant. Peter Hall directs. Transfer from a successful run at the Piccadilly Theatre. **Comedy**, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm. Until July 26

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Cats** New London (0171-405 0072). ◪ **Grease** Cambridge (0171-494 5080). ◪ **An Inspector Calls** Garrick (0171-494 5085). ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar** Lyceum (0171-656 1807). ☐ **Martin Guerre** Prince Edward (0171-447 5400). ◪ **Les Misérables** Palace (0171-434 0909). ◪ **Miss Saigon** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400). ☐ **The Mousetrap** St Martin's (0171-836 1443). ◪ **Oliver!** Palladium (0171-494 5020). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). ☐ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054). ☐ **The Woman in Black** Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **ANACONDA** (15): Silly fun in the rainforest with Jennifer Lopez, Jon Voight, and an unconvincing giant snake. Director, Luis Llosa. **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

CRYING FREEMAN (18): Heavily stylised gang war thriller, adapted from a Japanese comic book, with Mark Dacascos and Julie Condra Douglas. Director, Christophe Gans. **ABC Piccadilly** (0171-437 3561)

◆ **GHOSTS FROM THE PAST** (15): Simplistic race relations drama, with Alec Baldwin and James Woods. Director, Rob Reiner. **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

KIDS RETURN Delinquents turn boxers. Thoughtful, partly autobiographical film from Japanese cult director Takeshi Kitano. **ICA Cinema** (0171-930 3647)

KOLYA (12): Confirmed bachelor is lumbered with a five-year-old boy. Enchanting Czech Oscar-winner, directed by Jan Sverak. **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

MOLL FLANDERS (12) Robin Wright survives 18th-century London. Dull variation on Defoe's novel, written and directed by Pen Densham. **ABC Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279)

CURRENT

EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU (12) New York neuroses set to music by Woody Allen. Beguiling, but thin. With Alan Alda and Julia Roberts. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **FEVER PITCH** (15): Football-crazed teacher falls in love. Appealing version of Nick Hornby's book, with Colin Firth, Ruth Gemmell. Director, David Evans. **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (0181-315 4215) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Whitemans** (0181-568 1176)

◆ **LIAR LIAR** (12): Lawyer Jim Carrey tells the truth for 24 hours. Attractive comedy, soft round the edges. Director, Tom Shadyac. **ABCs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0990-888 990) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **RETURN OF THE JEDI** (U): Luke Skywalker battles Darth Vader yet again. Special edition of the 1983 *Star Wars* sequel, with Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, and Carrie Fisher. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SAINT** (12): Botched revival of Leslie Charteris's gentleman thief, played by Val Kilmer. With Elisabeth Shue. Director, Philip Noyce. **Empire** ◪ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **SCREAM** (18): Wes Craven's rousing horror romp, with Neve Campbell and in-jokes galore. **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

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CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444 REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged) All 37 Plays in 97 Minutes "Hilarious" Times Mats Thur at 3, Sat at 5 Sun at 4. Eves at 8pm THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged) Tuesday at 8pm London's Longest Running Comedy Hit

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WYNDHAMS 369 1736/344 4444 BEST COMEDY Eve Standard Awards BEST COMEDY Laurence Olivier Awards "ART" A new play by Yasmina Reza Trans. by Christopher Hampton "Fly, swim or skate just to see it" New York Times Eves 8, Mats Wed 3 & Sat 5

298,000 readers of this section go to the theatre at least once every 2/3 months.

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NEWS

Clarke warns of swing to Right

■ Kenneth Clarke delivered a stark warning to the Conservative Party last night that it would make itself unelectable like the Labour of the early 1980s if it swung to the Right and became more anti-European.

The former Chancellor enlivened the Tory leadership race by claiming that the stance on the single currency adopted by the other five candidates "would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics" ..... Pages 1, 10

BA 747's door starts to open in flight

■ A British Airways Boeing 747 carrying more than 300 passengers had to return to Gatwick after a door handle started to spin open immediately after take-off. Two cabin crew forced it back as air was whistling from the top and bottom of the door and the plane climbed to 21,000ft ..... Page 1

Paying-up time

Tony Blair is to throw a £2 billion lifeline to Britain's hundreds of thousands of small companies by announcing stringent legislative proposals to stop the late payment of bills ..... Page 1

Brussels agrees

Gordon Brown won clearance from Brussels for the Government's plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel and he quashed speculation about Britain re-entering the ERM ..... Page 2

Banker tells of racism

A merchant banker who was earning £750,000 wept as he told an industrial tribunal how racism had blighted his career at Goldman Sachs. He said he was a "token black face" ..... Page 2

Jurors cleared

Two women jurors jailed for contempt of court for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared by the Appeal Court, which criticised the trial judge ..... Page 3

Gulf War claims

Gulf War veterans have renewed claims that they were exposed to sarin, mustard gas and other nerve agents, in a Channel 4 documentary ..... Page 4

Not amused

Billy Connolly, speaking at the Cannes Film Festival where his *Mrs Brown* is being premiered, deplored the latest generation of comedians ..... Page 5

Cookery lessons

Schools have a duty to revive domestic science and the dying art of "real cooking" among the TV dinner generation, Prue Leith, the food writer and restaurateur, is to tell a conference ..... Page 8

Mentmore for sale

Mentmore Towers, the former Rothschild family seat in the Vale of Aylesbury built in 1852 and for twenty years home to the Maharishi Foundation, is up for sale for £10-15 million ..... Page 9

Cook marches in

Preceded by a video and pounding music, Robin Cook strode into the splendid Foreign Office Locarno Room to introduce his team to the press and his policies to the world ..... Pages 10, 19

Pilot grounded

Kelly Flinn, the USAF's first woman B52 pilot, is to be court-martialled for adultery and other charges arising from her affair with a civilian ..... Page 13

Caucasus pact

Russia and Chechnya signed a treaty aimed at ending 400 years of confrontation and setting out the principles for peaceful relations ..... Page 14

Ready to scramble

Britain's Joint Force headquarters outside Brazzaville is on alert for an operation to evacuate the British community in Kinshasa, across the Zaire river ..... Page 15

Australian swimmer sinks record

■ Susie Maroney, 22, Australia's long-distance swimming champion, became the first person officially to swim unassisted across the 112-mile Straits of Florida separating Cuba and the American mainland. She swam in a 28ft by 8ft shark-proof cage and reached Key West in 24 hr 20min. Asked how she planned to celebrate she replied, "just to rest" ..... Page 1

DAVID HOWELLS/SOUTH WEST NEWS SERVICE



Estate agent Martin Elliott with a for sale sign yesterday at the Whispering Knights, part of the 77 Rollright Stones. Page 3

BUSINESS

Drinks deal: Guinness and Grand Metropolitan announced a £24 billion merger, the biggest between two British companies, creating the world's largest wine and spirits business ..... Pages 27, 29

Regan settles: The entrepreneur who led the abortive £1.2 billion bid to take over CWS settled out of court in the civil action it brought against him ..... Page 27

Trade deal: Reversing policy, the Government is to back adopting minimum job standards linked to trade agreements ..... Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 38.7 to 4,669.6, another record close. The pound rose 0.55 cents to $1.6248 and 2.10 pfennigs to DM2.7631, lifting the sterling index to 98.5 from 98.0 ..... Page 30

SPORT

Football: Aston Villa have agreed to pay Liverpool a club record £7 million for Stan Collymore, who will travel to Villa Park for talks on a five-year contract ..... Page 52

Cricket: The Australians arrived in England for the Ashes series, intent on making the right impression from the start. Their first match is at Arundel on Thursday ..... Page 52

Tennis: After two months out of tournament play, Greg Rusedski, Britain's No 2, was beaten 7-6, 7-6 by Albert Portas, of Spain, in the Italian Open ..... Page 52

Rugby union: Danny Grewcock, of Coventry, and David Baldwin, of Sale, will tour Argentina with England as replacements for the injured Martin Bayfield and John Fowler ..... Page 49

Schools competition: *The Times* has 500 free tickets to the Junior Prom at the Albert Hall in September to be won. Richard Morrison introduces the event ..... Page 22

Seeking asylum: Jeremy Sams is putting the finishing touches to a new production of *Marat/Sade* at the National's freshly built theatre-in-the-round ..... Page 23

Modern times: London's attempt failed, but Berlin has succeeded in mounting an extraordinarily ambitious, blockbuster show of innovative 20th-century art ..... Page 24

Prime mime: The loyal fans enjoyed Marcel Marceau's celebration of 50 years of mime artistry at the Festival Hall on Saturday, but his genius has given way to mere guardianship ..... Page 25

All change: In the second part of our series on the problems and opportunities facing women in midlife, the Cambridge social psychologist Terri Apter focuses on the four different types of crisis experienced by women as they reach maturity, and argues that each can lead to a successful outcome. Today: traditional women, expansive women, innovative women and protesting women ..... Pages 16, 17

Open letters: Martin Bowley, QC, and James Burnett-Hitchcock, a solicitor, put the new Lord Chancellor on the spot, while Sir Frederick Lawton, the retired Court of Appeal judge, advises the new Home Secretary ..... Page 35

Global criminals: Frances Gibb on an international criminal law conference ranging from money laundering to a Bill of Rights .. Page 39

Jacques Chirac has challenged the Socialist party and Lionel Jospin has not yet taken him up. After a year and a half of remodelling, are the Socialists ready to propose a viable policy of the left in order to attain the objectives on which most French people are in agreement: to reduce unemployment, to succeed in joining the single European currency and to make certain of France's place in worldwide economic competition? — *Le Monde*



IN THE TIMES

■ **HOME FRONT**
A 12-page guide to finding the perfect property; plus garden planting tips

■ **CYBER CADETS**
Interface reveals how granny and her fellow first-timers learnt to surf the Net

Preview: Prince Michael of Kent tells the story of his great-great-grandparents, *Victoria and Albert* (ITV, 10.40pm). **Review:** Joe Joseph on the joy of fishing .. Pages 50, 51

Horizon tour

Labour's human rights agenda is more ambitious than any since that of the Carter Administration in 1976, and like President Carter's is likely to prove easier to enunciate than to implement ..... Page 19

New lottery

If the Government manages to make its operation more transparent and less profitable to the operator, the public might even stop worrying and learn to love the lottery ..... Page 19

Suit yourself

There is a certain appeal in politicians fresh to office avoiding the pomposity of power. But there may be new perils too ..... Page 19

LIBBY PURVES

That kind, sensible little lad practising Grade I violin may within the hour be on the shed roof with three good friends, throwing tiles down at a fourth. Boys need watching ..... Page 18

WOODROW WYATT

Frank Field immediately recognised the virtues of Peter Lilley's plan for a gradual move into compulsory and properly funded private pension schemes ..... Page 18

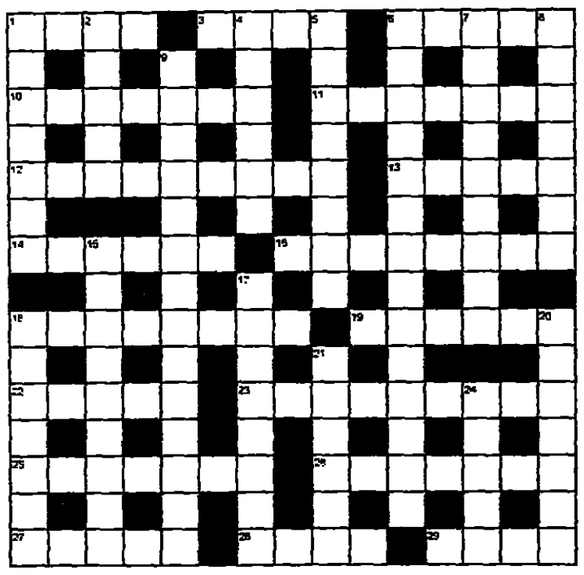
PETER RIDDELL

Kenneth Clarke has been the odd man out among the six Tory leadership contenders. He has had no formal launch for his campaign, has given no interviews about his inner self, has written no articles about the way ahead . . . MPs and journalists wonder whether Ken is being his usual casual self. They are wrong ..... Page 10

Major-General Sir George Burns, former Colonel of the Coldstream Guards; **Abbot Aelred Watkin**, former Headmaster of Downside; **Marco Ferreri**, Italian film director ..... Page 21

Amnesty International on Shell; Europe; married couples' tax allowance; Humphrey the cat; the countryside ..... Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,478



ACROSS

1 Standard to aim for on course (4).
3 Send out to get great physician back (4).
6 Get into gear in a Mini, perhaps (5).
10 Marked above zero? (7).
11 Spirit of the House (7).
12 Popular conclusion that's *no* longer common? (9).
13 Try to see time on ticker (5).
14 US lawyer to screen material (6).
16 Paramount chief (8).
18 Like the territory Darwin grew up in (8).
19 *Conventions put years on Uncle* Sam (6).
22 Respectful form of address reversing hard-hearted prejudice (5).
23 Bardell, for example, in case of *simple misunderstanding* (9).
25 Support state party's boasting (7).
26 One conceals the party's present chances (4,3).
27 Having entrance but restricted (5).
28 Way in which crook pinches article (4).
29 Diligently study course books (4).

DOWN

1 Reckoned using buff coloured dice? (7).
2 Order from the highest level (5).
4 Moderate means (6).
5 Panel receives gold cross for displays (8).
6 Young women gained, relatively speaking, by union (9-2-3).
7 Arms are essential for this engagement (9).
8 List points raised for politician (7).
9 Description of bishop's moving for all equally (6-3-5).
15 Review announced on April Fool's day? (5,4).
17 Catch opening that may let one down (8).
18 Is it ideal for eating chestnuts? (7).
20 Had a session about beef problem — it's not really any risk (4,3).
21 Critic's notice sent up this old character (6).
24 Following on to win, maybe (2,3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,477

W	I	N	C	H	E	S	T	E	R		C	L	E	F
A		E		O		E		V		C	A	R		
I	N	T	E	R	N	S		E	M	O	T	I	V	E
S		I		S		S		R		N		R		E
T	E	N	D	E	R	I	S	E		S	I	D	E	S
		C		L		O		S		T				
A	R	O	M	A		N	U	T	S	I	N	M	A	Y
U		M		T				T		A		L		
T	H	E	L	I	Z	A	R	D		U	N	C	L	E
O				T		C		U		T		H		
C	O	R	F	U		C	O	N	D	I	T	I	O	N
R		E		D		U		E		O		N		O
O	N	E	N	E	S	S		D	E	N	T	I	S	T
S		V		S		E		I		A		S		E
S	E	E	P		T	R	A	N	S	L	A	T	E	D

Times Two Crossword, page 52

AA INFORMATION

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, 0.60in; highest sunshine: Margate, Kent 14hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a mixture of sunshine and showers. Some of the showers will be heavy, but overall there will be fewer showers than in recent days and many eastern districts could remain dry. It will also be less windy, so it should feel slightly warmer. Temperatures will be around normal.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have quite a lot of cloud, and heavy showers will break out quite widely during the day, frequent and occasionally prolonged in western areas. Eastern districts will have some sunshine. Winds will gradually decrease, and top temperatures will be close to normal.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England:** sunny spells and a few showers, dying out later. Wind south to southwest, mainly moderate. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **W Midlands, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England:** sunny intervals, heavy showers developing for a time. Wind south to southwest, mainly moderate. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales:** sunny intervals. Occasional heavy showers, dying out later. Wind southwest, mainly moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** sunny spells, but scattered heavy showers by afternoon. Wind mainly southerly, moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** heavy showers, some prolonged, but largely dying out later. Risk hail or thunder. Wind south or southwest, moderate. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** sunny intervals and occasional heavy showers. Wind southerly, mostly fresh or strong. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday:** dry, with some sunshine in most areas, patchy rain in northwestern areas.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

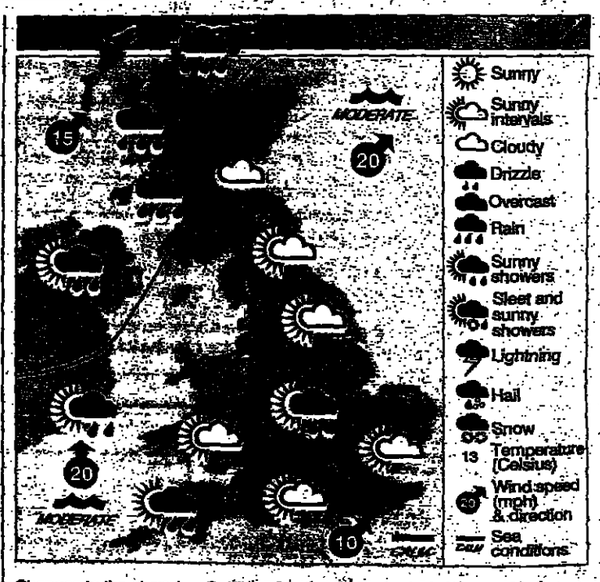
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; du=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.2	0.06	12	54	sh	Littlehampton	12.3	0.03	15	59	s
Anglesey	7.7	0.04	13	55	s	London	9.0	x	16	61	sh
Aspatria	3.9	0.03	12	54	sh	Lowestoft	10.9	0.08	15	59	s
Aviemore	3.8	0.05	12	54	sh	Manchester	8.4	0.01	15	59	s
Belfast	x	-	-	-	-	Margate	14.0	-	16	61	s
Birmingham	10.9	0.01	15	59	sh	Minehead	9.9	0.11	15	59	sh
Bognor R	10.6	-	15	59	s	Morecambe	6.4	0.01	14	57	s
Bournem'th	13.7	0.06	15	59	s	Newcastle	8.7	0.01	12	54	s
Bristol	8.0	0.03	15	59	h	Newquay	10.2	0.20	14	57	s
Buxton	9.6	0.02	13	55	s	Norwich	10.7	0.01	16	61	s
Cardiff	10.8	0.06	14	57	sh	Oxford	8.7	0.02	14	57	sh
Cromer	10.2	0.13	16	61	sh	Penzance	x	0.09	15	59	sh
Dunbar	4.8	0.05	14	57	sh	Poole	x	-	-	-	-
Eastbourne	11.1	-	14	57	s	Prestatyn	x	0.01	14	57	b
Edinburgh	3.2	0.25	11	52	sh	Ross-o-wye	9.5	0.12	15	59	sh
Eskdalemuir	-	0.60	8	46	sh	Ryde	13.4	0.02	15	59	sh
Exmouth	9.8	0.15	14	57	r	Salcombe	11.8	0.02	14	57	s
Falmouth	11.2	0.11	14	57	s	Sandown	12.3	-	15	59	s
Fishguard	10.2	0.03	11	52	sh	Scatsta Snd	9.0	0.15	14	57	s
Folkestone	13.0	-	14	57	s	Scarboro'	11.9	0.03	14	57	s
Glasgow	0.4	0.35	10	50	sh	Shanklin	13.1	0.02	13	55	s
Guernsey	11.2	0.07	17	63	s	Shrewsbury	10.3	0.08	14	57	h
Hastings	10.6	0.02	15	59	s	Skegness	x	-	-	-	-
Hayling I.	12.5	-	15	59	s	Southend	11.4	-	15	59	s
Herne Bay	11.5	0.01	15	59	s	Southport	8.5	-	14	57	s
Hove	10.4	0.06	14	57	s	Stornoway	0.6	0.17	10	50	sh
Hunstanton	x	0.07	15	59	sh	Swanage	12.9	0.04	14	57	sh
Ilfracombe	x	-	-	-	-	Teignmouth	11.9	0.02	15	59	s
Isle of Man	5.1	0.01	13	55	b	Tenby	11.1	0.06	13	55	s
Jersey	9.6	0.20	16	61	sh	Tiree	x	-	-	-	-
Kinloss	0.1	0.29	13	55	b	Torquay	11.1	0.04	15	59	s
Leeds	9.9	0.02	15	59	sh	Ventnor	12.2	0.01	13	55	s
Lerwick	3.9	0.07	10	50	b	Weston-s-mare	x	-	-	-	-
Leuchars	3.4	0.12	13	55	sh	Weymouth	11.7	0.01	14	57	s

ABROAD

Ajaccio	23	72	s	Corfu	25	77	s	Majorca	32	72	f	Rome	22	72	s
Alicante	28	82	s	C'phagn	13	55	f	Malaga	25	77	c	S M'rlaco	14	57	s
Alex'dria	24	75	s	Dublin	9	48	r	Malta	22	72	s	S Paulo	23	73	c
Algiers	22	72	f	Dubrovnik	22	72	s	Melb'rne	14	57	c	Salzburg	22	72	s
Amst'dm	14	57	f	Faro	19	66	s	Mexico C	21	70	f	Santiago	22	72	s
Athens	28	82	s	Florence	22	72	s	Miami	28	82	s	Seoul	25	77	f
B Aires	27	81	s	Frankfurt	23	73	f	Milan	23	73	s	Sing'por	33	91	t
Bahrain	33	91	s	Funchal	20	68	sh	Montreal	15	59	s	Stockhm	13	55	f
Bangkok	35	95	s	Geneva	19	66	s	Moscow	20	68	f	Strasb'rg	23	73	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	22	72	f	Munich	23	73	s	Sydney	15	59	r
Barcelona	18	64	f	Helsinki	13	55	f	N Delhi	x	-	-	Tangier	20	68	f
Beirut	23	73	s	Hong K	29	84	c	N York	18	64	s	Tel Aviv	29	84	s
Belgrade	35	77	f	Innsbruck	21	70	s	Nairobi	23	73	f	Tenerife	24	75	s
Berlin	19	66	f	Istanbul	20	68	s	Naples	24	75	s	Tokyo	23	73	s
Bermuda	23	73	s	Jeddah	36	97	s	Nice	17	63	s	Toronto	17	63	f
Biarritz	14	57	c	Jo'burg	17	63	s	Oslo	8	46	d	Tunis	27	81	s
Borde'x	13	55	c	L Angeles	19	66	f	Paris	14	57	c	Valencia	19	66	r
Brussels	14	57	c	L Palmas	23	73	s	Peking	23	73	c	Varsch'er	16	61	s
Budapst	23	73	f	La Toquet	16	61	f	Perth	15	59	c	Venice	17	63	s
Cairo	33	91	s	Lisbon	20	68	f	Prague	22	72	f	Vienna	23	73	s
Cape Tn	29	84	s	Locarno	14	57	c	Reykjavik	8	46	s	Warsaw	22	72	f
Ch church	14	57	x	Luxemb'g	12	54	c	Rhodes	21	70	s	Wash'ton	21	70	s
Chicago	18	64	f	Lyon	40	104	s	Rio de J	26	77	f	Wellington	18	64	x
Cologne	17	63	r	Madrid	21	70	f	Riyadh	38	97	s	Zurich	23	73	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday. x = not available



Changes to the chart: low B will drift north and fill slowly. Low C will move north and deepen slightly. High A will see little movement and will decline slowly



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	08.55	5.6	19.22	6.3	Leith	07.57	4.7	20.30	4.9
Aberdeen	08.32	3.6	19.20	3.4	Liverpool	04.06	8.1	16.39	7.7
Avonmouth	-	-	12.12	13.4	Lowestoft	03.02	2.1	14.45	2.2
Belfast	04.17	3.2	17.00	2.9	Margate	05.05	4.2	17.14	4.1
Cardiff	11.56	9.7	-	-	Milford Haven	11.25	5.5	23.45	5.6
Devonport	10.42	4.5	22.50	5.5	Mostyn	10.22	5.8	22.45	5.6
Dover	04.02	5.7	16.28	5.6	Oban	10.58	2.9	23.02	3.0
Dublin (N Wall)	04.51	3.7	17.36	3.5	Penzance	09.50	4.5	22.14	4.8
Falmouth	10.13	4.3	22.21	4.4	Portland	11.55	2.3	23.57	1.3
Greenock	05.10	3.2	17.58	2.9	Portsmouth	04.15	4.0	17.09	4.0
Harwich	04.43	3.5	18.24	3.6	Shoreham	03.52	5.2	16.30	5.2
Holyhead	03.21	4.2	15.59	4.5	Southampton	03.41	4.0	16.15	3.9
Hull (Albert D)	11.22	7.6	-	-	Swansea	11.23	7.7	23.52	7.7
Ilfracombe	11.08	7.4	23.24	7.3	Tees	06.57	4.7	21.39	4.5
King's Lynn	11.21	5.4	-	-	Weston-on-N	04.42	3.6	16.58	3.5

All times BST; Heights in metres.

Sun rises: 5.12 am — Sun sets: 8.49 pm

Moon sets: 1.28 am — Moon rises: 11.19 am

First quarter tomorrow

London 8.43 pm to 5.10 am
Bristol 8.52 pm to 5.20 am
Edinburgh 8.16 pm to 5.02 am
Manchester 9.00 pm to 5.40 am
Penzance 8.59 pm to 5.37 am

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THE TIMES

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How to deal with the problems of 'foreign' justice
PAGES 35-39



OWN BUSINESS
Why dressing up retains its glamour
PAGE 43



SPORT
Australians return with a familiar ring of confidence
PAGES 46-52

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 51,52

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

Regan settles CWS civil suit

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ANDREW REGAN, the entrepreneur who led the abortive £1.2 billion bid to take over the Co-operative Wholesale Society, yesterday settled the civil action brought against him by CWS out of court.

He and David Lyons, his business partner, and Allan Green, a former CWS executive who helped them to prepare their bid, are understood to have agreed to pay CWS up to £1 million.

In return for the payment, the civil action against the three men and Galileo, the company set up for the takeover and Lanica Trust, the quoted investment company run by Mr Regan, has been dropped.

Lanica itself made no contribution to the settlement and with the threat of expensive legal action now lifted, its shares, which have been suspended since February, are expected to begin trading again later this week. Its results have been audited, and only the Stock Exchange's agreement is now needed for the figures to be released and the shares to return.

Yesterday's settlement comes after a similar arrangement reached two weeks ago with Mr Regan's main advisers, Hambros Bank and Travis Smith Braithwaite.

Lanica noted yesterday that the liquidator of Galileo is considering bringing claims against some former advisers. The liquidator, Jason Elles of Ernst & Young, would have to ask shareholders in Galileo whether they would fund the legal action and he is expected to make a decision on this in the next fortnight.

The CWS is still pursuing a private criminal action against Mr Green, Mr Regan and Mr Lyons over the alleged theft of commercially sensitive documents by Mr Green. Lanica said that Mr Regan and Mr Lyons "intend to defend these proceedings vigorously".

Biggest merger of British companies will create group worth £23.8bn

Guinness in GrandMet link

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE biggest merger between two British companies was unveiled yesterday when Grand Metropolitan and Guinness said that they would combine to form a £23.8 billion group.

The merged companies will be renamed GMG Brands and will constitute Britain's eight-largest listed company, the world's seventh-largest food and drinks group and its single largest wine and spirits business. The drink brands brought together include GrandMet's Smirnoff vodka, Bailey's and Cinzano with Guinness-owned Johnnie Walker, Bell's Scotch whisky and Gordon's gin. It will also unite GrandMet's US food businesses, which include Burger King, Häagen-Dazs ice cream and Green Giant vegetables, with the famous Guinness brewing business.

The deal, which is subject to European Union and United States regulatory approval, will be followed by a one-off cash payment to shareholders of at least £2.4 billion, or 60p per share. Guinness shareholders will retain their shares in GMG Brands while GrandMet shareholders will receive one new GMG share for each GrandMet share.

News of the merger sent GrandMet's shares soaring 76½p to 591½p, while Guinness leapt 86p to 602½p.

However, it has already met with opposition from Bernard Arnault, a non-executive director of Guinness and chairman of France's LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, which has a 14.2 per cent stake in Guinness.

He voted against the deal at a board meeting on Friday and yesterday suggested an alternative involving the three spirits and wines businesses of GrandMet, Guinness and Moët Hennessy, as an independent listed group. GrandMet and Guinness told him that all the other directors favoured the creation of GMG Brands.

Tony Greener, who is chairman of Guinness and will be joint chairman of GMG, said that talks were still going on with M. Arnault.

The merger should create cost savings of about £175 million per year in the third year and involve around 2,000 job cuts worldwide in the merged drinks division, which is to be named United Distillers and Vintners or UDV. UDV accounts for about 20,000 of the total combined workforce of 85,000. The total cost of achieving the savings is expected to be about £375 million.

The merger has caused reverberations across the globe. Seagram, the Canadian drinks and media company, and Brown Forman Corporation, which owns Jack Daniel's, are likely to fight back by looking for their own deals. Shares in Allied Domecq, seen as a possible bid target, closed up 18p, at 446½p.

George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, will be joint chairman until July next year when he will retire, leaving Mr Greener as full-time chairman. The deal is not expected to be completed much before the end of this year.

John McGrath of GrandMet will be group chief executive. Jack Keenan, also of GrandMet, will head UDV, with Finn Johnson from Guinness, as his deputy. Philip Yea of Guinness will be group finance director, leaving no role for Gerald Corbett, the GrandMet finance director, who will leave once the merger is completed.

Pennington, page 29
Rivals exposed, page 31
Diary, page 31



Tony Greener, left, chairman of Guinness, and George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, celebrating after yesterday's merger announcement

A MARRIAGE MADE AT DUKE'S HOTEL

GEORGE BULL says he "popped the question" to Tony Greener about a marriage of the two companies over dinner in a private room at Dukes Hotel in London on April 10 (Sarah Cunningham and Robert Miller write).

"I suggested the time was right to consider a merger, and Tony replied that he had been thinking along the same lines," the GrandMet chairman said. The two groups had been flirting for years. But a leak last summer of supposed takeover plans by Guinness brought strenuous denials of an impending deal.

Once Mr Bull revealed GrandMet to be a willing partner, merger talks were non stop. Yet they never leaked in spite of several hundred advisers knowing details. The two chairmen, who have known each other for 16 years, held daily meetings. They first discussed with lawyers whether the deal would get regulatory approval in the companies' many markets.

Then, late last month, the issue was put to the two companies' boards. Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH, the French company which owns 14 per cent of Guinness, was only told of the plan on April 28. He was the only Guinness director to vote against the merger at the board meeting last Friday. The GrandMet board was unanimous.

Some of the City's top firms will be the biggest beneficiaries in the £24 billion deal. These include Lazard Brothers and SBC Warburg, the merchant bankers, KPMG and Price Waterhouse, the accountants, and Norton Rose, Theodore Goddard, SJ Berwin and Slaughter and May, the solicitors.

Philip Healey, editor of *Acquisitions Monthly* magazine, said: "This deal will be a gravy train for advisers and both sets of directors and should generate fees of at least £100 million. And, because it is an agreed deal there will be a much better severance settlement for those directors who leave the company after the merger."

Philip Yea, Guinness group finance director, who will have the same post at GMG Brands, said fees would be "well south of £100 million."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4669.6	(+38.7)
Yield	3.47%	
FTSE All share	2222.19	(+14.18)
Nikkei	20143.51	(+340.73)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7256.49	(+86.96)*
S&P Composite	833.75	(+8.97)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5⅝%)
Long Bond	96³¹/₃₂*	(96¹⁵/₃₂)
Yield	6.87%*	(6.89%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Lttle long gilt future (Jun)	114⁷/₃₂	(114⁷/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6235*	(1.6232)
London:		
$	1.6248	(1.6194)
DM	2.7628	(2.7426)
FFr	9.3134	(9.2494)
SFr	2.3326	(2.3130)
Yen	192.53	(197.08)
£ Index	98.5	(98.0)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7034*	(1.6880)
FFr	5.7425*	(5.6895)
SFr	1.4385*	(1.4235)
Yen	118.85*	(120.25)
$ Index	103.4	(104.1)

Tokyo close Yen 118.91

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$19.40	($18.75)

GOLD

London close	$350.15	($346.55)

* denotes midday trading price

Statutory late payer interest opposed

BY ADAM JONES

THE Federation of Small Business and the Confederation of British Industry yesterday spoke against a statutory right to interest on late payments, which is expected to be proposed by the Government in the Queen's Speech tomorrow.

David Hands, of the FSB, said: "I don't think statutory interest is the best way to go about it. Small businesses are often the ones guilty of late payment themselves."

He said small businesses would be reluctant to levy interest fines on larger companies that could simply take their trade elsewhere.

The CBI's smaller members have consistently opposed interest payment laws. Matthew Farrow, head of the small and medium enterprises unit, said the CBI expected a consultation document before any action. He said: "Legislation might make matters worse."

He said larger firms could just use their muscle to negotiate longer payment periods to avoid any risk of incurring a penalty. The payment could then be made as slowly as before. A standardised payment period would circumvent this. But Mr Farrow said members wanted flexibility in arranging terms with foreign companies.

Ruth Lea, head of the policy unit at the Institute of Directors, which was expecting a period of consultation, said a legal framework might legitimise late payment, making it look more respectable. The IoD is keener on measures to make court action against late payers easier.

Sterling bounces back as UK stays firm on ERM

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE POUND bounced back on the foreign exchanges late yesterday after Gordon Brown said he has no intention of taking Britain back into the European Exchange Rate Mechanism.

The stock market also hit a new record, buoyed by the Guinness/Grand Metropolitan merger and a strong rally on Wall Street.

The pound closed up nearly two pfennigs against the German mark at DM2.7631 while sterling's trade weighted index rose half a point to 98.5. The new Chancellor of the Exchequer informed European finance ministers that there was no substance in rumours that the Government wanted the pound to rejoin the ERM at DM2.50. Earlier in the day the pound had fallen to a seven-week low of DM2.7268 on expectations that the Bank of England will use its quarterly inflation bulletin today to argue that there is no immediate need for a rate rise.

The FTSE 100 closed up 38.7 points at 4669.6 as Wall Street rose 91 points in early trading. The Guinness and GrandMet merger plans helped the market higher with rival companies such as Allied Domecq gaining on bid speculation.

New economic data showed that the strength of the pound is continuing to hold back factory-gate inflation. Input prices, which measure the price of raw materials, fell by 1.9 per cent in April taking the annual rate of decline to 10.5 per cent - the largest fall since 1986. Factory gate prices rose by 0.2 per cent in April and by 0.8 per cent year-on-year.

High Street sales increased again, according to the British Retail Consortium. Like-for-like volumes rose 4.1 per cent compared with 3.7 per cent in March. The BRC said quarterly growth registered only 4 per cent - the lowest level since the end of 1995. Retail goods inflation was 0.9 per cent.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 31

Argos shares are hit by chief's alert

SHARES in Argos fell 27½p, to 623p, yesterday after the catalogue retailer said that interim profits would fail to match results reported for the first half of the previous year.

The company, whose shares were 798½p late last year, said that a number of markets in which Argos trades continue to be sluggish or were even falling back compared with 1996. A combination of increased costs and lower interest income, because of the payment of last year's special dividend, would have an adverse impact on profits.

Note of caution, page 29
Tempus, page 30

UK to end opposition to job rule in trade pacts

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is to reverse a key aspect of Britain's trade policy with the rest of the world by backing the adoption of minimum job standards linked to trade agreements.

The move will mark a complete about-turn from what was, under the Conservatives, probably Britain's principal policy position on the issue of world trade.

Ministers are set to alter Britain's policy by supporting the idea of a "social clause" — a stipulation to be attached to world trade agreements that countries covered by them must adopt prescribed minimum standards on employment rights. Previously, Britain was a vociferous opponent of the policy, which is strongly endorsed by countries including the US, France and Sweden, but is opposed by countries such as Singapore and Korea. The UK's opposition to a social clause was seen as the central aspect of its world trade policy.

Just as Britain is now to sign the social chapter for the EU, ministers will now support pressure for a social clause from the US and elsewhere. They are likely to raise the topic at next month's meeting of the Group of Seven industrialised nations in Denver, Colorado.

The change was signalled yesterday by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, as he launched the Foreign Office's new mission statement. Mr Cook said: "Labour is committed to a social clause in the [World Trade Organisation]. Unfortunately, the Conservative Government opposed this. But we are determined to get it back up the agenda."

Supporters of a social clause say it will help to even the economic balance between currently low-cost world producers, mainly in emerging economies, and more advanced economies. Opponents claim that it will increase poverty in Third World countries and may push up prices of some internationally traded goods.

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Nadir vow to clear his name and sue the SFO

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE millionaire fugitive Asil Nadir will tell a television audience tonight that he is to sue the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) for an alleged abuse of legal process.

The former head of the collapsed Polly Peck empire, in an interview on *The Cook Report*, says that he is prepared to return to the UK to clear his name.

Mr Nadir fled from the UK to northern Cyprus in 1993 after he had been arrested and charged in 1990, and then again in 1991, with various offences under the Theft Act.

In the programme produced by Carlton, Mr Nadir says: "What crime deserves a seven-year sentence, and what crime also on top of the seven-year sentence deserves a £1 billion fine? I've served this and I've paid that and I've done nothing."

A spokesman for the Serious Fraud Office said: "We have not received any notice of legal action. Asil Nadir has been charged with theft from Polly Peck. He failed to surrender to custody at the Old Bailey and a warrant has been issued for his arrest."

The spokesman went on: "He presently lives in northern Cyprus from where he cannot be extradited. The SFO intends to proceed against him when he returns — or is returned — to the United Kingdom."

The programme will reveal that Mr Nadir, who was on £3.5 million bail, fled the country in disguise, sporting a false moustache and tartan sports hat. It will also detail his involvement with an underworld supergrass and the allegations of a bribery plot involving the judge who presided over his case.

The SFO said: "These are all matters which are potentially involved in a trial. For that reason we could not comment on such issues."



Asil Nadir, right, making a point to Roger Cook during filming for tonight's television report being shown on ITV

Water firms told to cut leaks or face action

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

WATER companies were yesterday told to tackle leakage or face legal action.

Ian Byatt, the industry regulator, accused some companies of cutting corners on leakage. He rounded on the companies, some of which lose more than a third of their water into the ground, just ahead of their reporting season, in which they are expected to announce record profits.

In an interview shown on BBC Television's *Panorama* last night, Mr Byatt said that although some water companies were getting to grips with leakage, others were not. He said: "Some are being rather slower about this. I think they've been trying to save costs and are in danger of cutting corners." He said that leakage targets would force action. "If they don't meet those leakage targets, which they all have for this financial year, then enforcement action will be taken against them," he said.

Mr Byatt repeated warnings that the next pricing review for the industry would reduce profits. Water companies have been criticised for high profits, excessive executive pay and poor service, especially by the Labour Party in opposition. In the past two years, £1 billion has been spent by companies in share buybacks and £60 million has gone on special dividends, with a commitment to further such payouts by some companies.

Thames Water, the worst offender for leakage, yesterday offered to repair leaks in customers' pipes free of charge but denied that it had been railroaded into the action by Mr Byatt's criticism. According to the water watchdog, Thames last year lost 38.6 per cent of its water. Its leakage rate just exceeded that of Welsh Water, which leaked 37.9 per cent. Yorkshire Water, which was last year fined by Mr Byatt for its performance in the 1995 drought, lost 33.4 per cent.

The Water Services Association, which represents nine of the ten biggest privatised water and sewerage companies, denied that companies were cutting corners. A spokesman said: "Before the long, hot, dry summer of 1995, all the pressure on the water companies by government and regulators was to invest in measures to improve water quality and provide greater environmental protection. We are now doing all we can as quickly as we can to address the problem."

Mr Byatt's next pricing review is set for 1999. He has said that he may impose a one-off charge on companies in addition to running curbs if they continue to make high profits. Earlier this year he told a Commons committee that a one-off hit may be used to cut prices.

Insurers fear premium tax will be trebled

BY NATHAN YATES

THE Government may be poised to treble the tax on insurance policies in a move that would hit holidaymakers, householders and motorists with higher premium charges, City sources believe.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is thought to be planning to increase insurance premium tax (IPT) to 12.5 per cent. The tax, which is charged on motoring, home and travel insurance, is currently levied at 4 per cent, except for travel insurance bought through travel agencies, which is subject to 17.5 per cent tax.

The increase could raise as much as £2.5 billion. Moreover, policyholders tend to blame insurance companies and not the Government for higher insurance costs.

The average total premium cost for holders of buildings and contents insurance, motor insurance and private medical insurance is currently an annual £1,035. Even at this average premium level, the extra cost caused by increasing IPT to 12.5 per cent would be £87.98 per household each year.

The prospect of an IPT rise provoked an angry reaction from the Association of British Insurers. "IPT is an unfair tax which penalises people who are taking steps to protect themselves," said a spokesman.

IPT was introduced at a level of 2.5 per cent by the then Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, in the 1993 Budget, and was raised to 4 per cent in Mr Clarke's last Budget with an additional 13.5 per cent levied on insurance sold as part of retailers' package deals.

In opposition, Labour described the tax as a VAT on insurance which hits victims of crime. In 1994 Harriet Harman, as shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, opposed its introduction.

Raising IPT to 12.5 per cent would bring British IPT closer to continental levels.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Gunnell seeks listing for 'unfitness' clubs

SALLY GUNNELL, the Olympic athlete, is coming to the City to raise £1 million for Human Solutions, her health club company, which plans to open a chain of fitness centres aimed at unfit people. Human Resources, 10 per cent owned by Ms Gunnell and advised by her husband, is raising the money through a placing and open offer to gain an Ofex listing.

Andrew Meikle, managing director who met Ms Gunnell through her physiotherapist, said: "We are interested in the 70 per cent of the population who are not as fit as they should be. We will be putting forward Sally's idea of what a fitness club should be like: not intimidating, no mirrors, no leotards and chrome bars.". The company aims to open five Sally Gunnell Fitstops over the year, at an average cost of £180,000. It will join the Ofex trading facility next month, valued at £3 million and plans to join the Alternative Investment Market after 12 months.

USI to bid for Gieves

HONG KONG's USI Holdings is to make an offer for Gieves, valuing the upmarket tailor and publisher at £10.6 million, after raising its stake to 41.1 per cent by converting £2.5 million of loan stock. The conversion was aimed at strengthening Gieves's balance sheet. Last Friday, Gieves, which owns Gieves & Hawkes, the Savile Row tailor, announced a full-year loss of £1.3 million before tax (£2.7 million profit). The company was particularly hit by losses on its 49.5 per cent interest in Knickerbox, the high street retailer.

SGB valued at £130m

SGB, the scaffolding division of John Mowlem, is expected to be valued at £130 million when it is floated next month — £30 million higher than orginally expected. It is understood that Mowlem will peg the company's value to comparable construction-sector shares, which analysts identified as Ashstead, Bandt and Hewden Stewart. This would place its shares on a p/e ratio of about 19 times. SGB returned a pre-tax profit of £13.9 million (£9.4 million) on an underlying basis over 1996, on sales of £263 million (£247 million).

Interflora promise

REBEL florists who ousted the board of Interflora on Sunday have promised their members the new administration will not bow to any takeover approach. The new board, composed of 11 rebels voted through on a razor-thin majority at an emergency shareholder meeting, sought to allay members' fears that it may become a franchise. It said the new board was made up of ordinary member florists who wished "to preserve the traditions of Interflora as a trade association."

Pizza firm approached

SHARES in Canadian Pizza, the toppings and crust company, rose by 13 per cent yesterday after it confirmed having had an approach from an unnamed bidder. City speculation turned to the Kent family, who founded the Pizza products chain and remain the largest shareholder group, with an 18 per cent stake. The shares rose 10½p to 100p, which, on a price/earnings ratio of 11.6 times, still leaves the company at a 28 per cent discount to the market. It is now valued at £18.1 million.

Drug effective in trials

BRITISH BIOTECH, the largest biotechnology company, said latest clinical trials of Zacutex in the United Kingdom showed that the acute pancreatitis drug was effective in reducing organ failure and death in sufferers. The drug was submitted to the European Medicines Evaluation Agency in May and the company is setting up a European marketing system in anticipation of its approval. The drug is still undergoing trials in the US. The shares fell 4½p to 243½p.

Staff win job security

BLUE CIRCLE CEMENT yesterday signed an agreement that gives its 2,000 employees job security for three years and pay rises of a quarter of a point above inflation in return for improved efficiency. It is aiming to save £10 million a year by the end of the century through improved efficiency and cost reductions. Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, said: "This agreement proves that you can have flexibility and security in one deal."

Regret for Avonmore

AVONMORE FOODS yesterday said it regretted Waterford Foods' rejection of its merger proposal and was now seeking to determine if a realistic basis exists for further merger discussions. Avonmore launched a Ir£281 million offer for Waterford Foods early last month in a bid to create the biggest food group in the Irish Republic, with a combined turnover of Ir£2.5 billion. Waterford said the offer did not reflect the company's underlying value or strategic position.

Ladbroke's '£1m a week' cash game

BY JASON NISSÉ

THE 49ers game, an attempt by the large betting chains to reduce the effect of the National Lottery, is now worth £1 million a week for Ladbroke, the company said yesterday at its annual meeting.

Camelot, the National Lottery operator, is taking a private prosecution against Ladbroke, William Hill and Coral in an attempt to have 49ers stopped. This comes after the Director of Public Prosecutions refused to take action against 49ers under the Lotteries Act and Camelot was not allowed a judicial review of that decision.

The success of 49ers and Lucky Choice, Ladbroke's other cash game, helped the group to a good first four months of 1997, Peter George, the chief executive, said. "Profit before tax was significantly ahead of the same period last year," he added.

He also announced that Ladbroke was selling eight British hotels, with a book value of £90.6 million, which it does not believe fit in with the Hilton brand.

The co-operation agreement between Ladbroke and Hilton Hotels Corporation is starting to have an effect, with members of the HHC's HHonours rewards programme now booking into hotels that are in Ladbroke's part of the Hilton chain. A new reservation system is being developed and a joint logo is expected to be unveiled later this year.

Ladbroke shares rose 12p to 254p on the statement.

Tempus, page 30

Building societies to merge

THE Portman, the tenth biggest building society, is taking over the Greenwich, the 46th biggest (Caroline Merrell writes).

About 30,000 savers and borrowers with the Greenwich will receive bonuses worth in total £7 million under the terms of the merger. Qualifying savers will get a bonus worth 5 per cent of the balance of each of their accounts up to a maximum of £2,500: borrowers will receive a bonus of £200 for each mortgaged property. The average bonus per account will be around £300.

The transaction creates a society with combined assets of £4.3 billion, and a total branch network of 116. Greenwich's seven branches will become Portman branches.

Jourdan calls on its big investors to repel Abell

BY JASON NISSÉ

THE non-executive directors of Thomas Jourdan have written to the company's leading shareholders in a final attempt to stop David Abell, the controversial former Suter chief, gaining control.

Mr Abell, who owns 28 per cent of the company and is supported by shareholders with 10 per cent, has requisitioned an extraordinary meeting next week at which he seeks to oust Keith Whitten, Jourdan's chairman, and the three non-executives, Anna Vinton, Alastair Macpherson and Brian Park. He then will have himself and an associate, Jonathan Pither, appointed to the board to run the company, which owns the Corby trouser press business.

The non-executives yesterday wrote to the chairmen of the three largest institutional investors saying that anything but a vote backing the board would be a vote supporting Mr Abell. Jupiter Tyndall, which owns 6.8 per cent of Jourdan, is believed to be planning to back the move.



Abell: called meeting

M&G and Henderson Administration, which control 20 per cent between them, are said to be abstaining.

The Department of Trade and Industry is believed to be monitoring the situation as Mr Abell's activities in the past have been the subject of a DTI inquiry, although no action was taken. A spokesman for Mr Abell said he had yet to hear from the DTI.

The Takeover Panel decided that Mr Abell was not acting in concert with Roger Devlin and the Crutch family, long-time associates of Mr Abell who hold 10 per cent, when he built his 28 per cent stake earlier this year. Had it said they were in concert Mr Abell would have been forced to bid for Jourdan. The panel has now changed its mind and ruled that Mr Abell and his friends are in concert.

Provident leaps on £100m shares buyback

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL, which charges 164 per cent APR on loans to poor people, is to return about £100 million to investors in the next 12 months as part of a share buyback scheme.

The company said it would acquire 17 million shares, equivalent to 6.3 per cent of its issued capital, through joint brokers, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson and ABN-Amro when market conditions were favourable. Analysts welcomed the news saying it would boost earnings per share next year by 2 per cent to 38p, with a 3 per cent rise in 1999. The shares jumped 21.5p to 223p.

John van Kuffeler, chairman, said the company had been looking at how to enhance returns to shareholders but had ruled out making an acquisition. Provident is the leading lender of small loans to people not able to borrow on the high street, with a 40 per cent market share. Last year's pre-tax profits rose 17 per cent to £118.5 million. Since 1992 dividends per share have nearly trebled to 16.5p.

Most of Provident's 1.3 million clients borrow an average of £400 on which they pay a flat rate of interest of 59 per cent. This is equivalent to an APR of 164 per cent, much higher than the 12 per cent offered by the main clearing banks. Mr Kuffeler said the banks' monthly levying of account charges made them much more expensive than they appeared.

Mr Kuffeler was sanguine about Provident's prospects under a Labour Government. "The company has been going for 117 years and has flourished under Labour, Conservative and even Liberal governments. Labour understands the valuable service we provide to people who need a little money for their day to day needs."

Tempus, page 30

FOUR STATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.18	2.02
Austria Sch	20.34	18.79
Belgium Fr	59.89	55.28
Canada $	2.571	2.185
Cyprus Cypt	0.864	0.797
Denmark Kr	11.04	10.22
Finland Mrk	8.85	8.15
France Fr	9.72	9.00
Germany Dm	2.91	2.68
Greece Dr	465	428
Hong Kong $	13.90	12.77
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.12	1.04
Israel Shk	5.78	5.13
Italy Lira	2900	2678
Japan Yen	206.90	189.90
Malta	0.653	0.597
Netherlds Gld	3.261	3.004
New Zealand $	2.48	2.25
Norway Kr	12.06	11.18
Portugal Esc	289.50	269.00
S African Rd	7.92	7.01
Spain Pta	244.00	226.50
Sweden Kr	13.21	12.18
Switzerland Fr	2.47	2.27
Turkey Lira	228972	212453
USA $	1.721	1.587

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UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES

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Bull moves into Greener pastures

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

What wondrous things can be accomplished when boardroom egos make way for commercial logic. The coupling of Grand Metropolitan and Guinness creates a business with the strength to take on the global market and win. Tony Greener recognised this as the crucial move for Guinness three years ago, but it took the appointment last year of George Bull as chairman at GrandMet to give the deal any chance of being accomplished. Bull's predecessor, Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, would have had some difficulty in mastering the concept of a genuine merger, let alone the idea of a joint chairmanship.

But together these two major British companies have just 5 per cent of the world spirits market. If they are to successfully compete against the other 95 per cent, then they stand more chance together than apart. This message will not be wasted on drinks rivals Allied Domecq and Seagram, who could now be forced into partnership themselves.

There remains one monster ego trying to stand in the way of this logical marriage, but Monsieur Bernard Arnault speaks for just 14.2 per cent of Guinness, so his petty peevishness over the company's failure to adhere to his preferred strategy of demerging the business is merely an irritation, not an obstacle. Ideally, M Arnault will demonstrate his displeasure by selling his Guinness stake, putting the proceeds to work in buying another couture label to employ an out-of-work British dressmaker. Should he really wish to sever all links with Guinness, then the new grouping would happily buy his majority stake in Moët Hennessy to swell its portfolio of luxury drinks brands.

The new entity, unhappily dubbed GMG Brands, which hardly does credit to the combined advertising skills of the two organisations, is the antithesis of the demerger M Arnault advocated. The parties insist that they not only want to hang on to Guinness brewing, but also that food is an integral part of their plans. The synergies of world marketing apply whatever the product may be, they claim. The customers are the same whether the product is food or drink.

GrandMet has been through its enforced slimming course but has not lost its taste for calories. Depressing though the thought may be, Burger King claims fourth place in the table of world brands, and, thanks to the wonders of franchising, it can stretch further with little recourse to central coffers.

Those coffers, however, will be flush with cash, throwing up almost £1 billion a year. It could go back to shareholders, as dollops will in the course of this deal, or it could go on acquisitions. Food, rather than drink, is likely to be the target. Conspiracy theorists are already pointing to Dominic Cadbury's exit from the combined board as a hint of excitement to come.

After the inevitable acquisitions, and a few fat years as the undoubted synergies of the merger fall into place, someone, probably a City banker, might be heard to mutter about the merits of demerging.

There will be some scrabbling with semantics as the Department of Trade and Industry and the Treasury struggle to find a means of allowing a non-privatised Post Office to borrow cash without it adding to the public sector borrowing requirement.

Those who run the Royal Mail and Post Office Counters have examined some innovative plans for raising funds. There is the possibility of joint ventures — such as the link formed by the Dutch post office with the airline KLM — but that idea has so far been dashed by the Treasury's reluctance to allow public money to be linked with a private, and therefore potentially risky, body.

But if necessary, this could be changed with some quick rule rewriting. We might see the Government consigning the Post Office to a new status which might, however artificially, exempt it from PSBR bondage.

Declaring it an independent organisation operating under a charter — in a similar fashion to the BBC, might come close to the desired aim. For this the monopoly activities of the Royal Mail would have to be regulated, which should not cause too many problems.

Another route to pour more money into the Post Office would be to reduce its obligations to pay back cash to the Government under the external financing limits.

This year that requirement demands £310 million. Last year the Post Office made pre-tax profits of £480 million.

Also a possibility, though a far more sensitive one, would be selling off chunks of the organisation. So long as the Government still retained more than 50 per cent of the Post Office it would remain state-owned.

Some have argued that ownership of a minority stake by small investors and employees would be palatable. How to ensure the permanence of such an ownership is another matter.

Privatisation was last a big issue for the Post Office during last year's protracted strikes. The Communication Workers Union, which starts its annual conference on Sunday, will be looking for some indication that the Post Office is now in friendly hands.

They might soon have to peer behind the mirrors to make quite sure of what they are seeing.

Poser at the Post Office

The Post Office would like to be freed of government restraints, but Margaret Beckett, the Trade and Industry supremo, has indicated privatisation is not a possibility.

She would, however, like to help the Post Office in its quest for improved competitiveness. So what is to be done?

Serving the interest of small business

Enshrining a legal right to interest on late payment is not the panacea to small business ills which it might initially appear to be.

Michael Heseltine caused a furore when he revealed that, in the course of building up his own business he had taken advantage of delaying payment to creditors. The only surprise in this should have been that a politician had stooped to such honest recollections: as a successful entrepreneur, the likelihood was that Hezza would have used to his advantage all the available financial tools.

Big business is not the only offender in meeting bills on time and one of the main reasons why the previous government shied away from the legislation now being suggested is because of a fear that the main burden might fall upon small firms themselves.

There are other measures which a government keen to aid small firms should be looking at before moving towards measures that may prove to be little more than an empty gesture.

The Business Links idea which was the main focus of the Conservatives plan for taking aid and succour to small firms is still a muddle of good intentions and poor implementation. Deregulation, which should have lifted many of the burdens that weigh down small firms, has failed to deliver half the red tape cuts its should have done.

If small firms are to prosper, they will benefit from establishing strong relationships with major customers, and legislation will not help.

Lottery U-turn

☐ IF Camelot is to be included in the windfall tax, it will be Labour's first U-turn. It was 20 days ago that Jack Cunningham, then Heritage spokesman, said on Radio 5: "Camelot is not a privatised utility. And we've made it clear that the windfall tax is going to be aimed at privatised utilities. That doesn't include Camelot." Now his portfolio is agriculture, where, perhaps, his pronouncements on beef will have to be chewed with care.

Argos shares drop on note of caution

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ARGOS, the catalogue retailing group, cautioned investors that its first-half profits are unlikely to match those of last year, but said it remained confident that business will pick up in the more important second half.

The words of warning, which were more explicit than those used at the time of its 1996 results in March, when it said interim profits would be broadly flat, sent Argos shares tumbling 23p to 624½p. The company issued a profit warning in January about its 1996 results, which knocked 15 per cent off the value of its shares in a single day.

Sir Richard Lloyd, chairman, told the annual meeting that comparable store sales in the first 18 weeks of this year were 5.5 per cent higher. Total sales were 12 per cent ahead, roughly in line with analysts expectations, and follow a particularly successful first half last year, which saw like-for-like sales growth of 9 per cent in the first quarter and 13 per cent in the second quarter.

The company has cut its selling prices by an average 2 per cent, which has meant a slight lowering of the gross margin. Sir Richard said that 94 per cent of the reincluded lines in the current catalogue are the same price or cheaper than in the previous catalogue. He said the aim was to set "the high street price agenda".

Analysts said that second-half sales figures, unlike those of the first half, will be flattered by comparison with last year, which was disappointing for the company.

The roll-out of the Premier Points reward scheme with BP/Mobil and Somerfield is expected to benefit sales in the second half.

The company said that it plans to review progress on its three trial First Stop stores, which offer a limited and deeply discounted range of goods, early next year.

The first five trial stores in The Netherlands will open in the first quarter of next year.

Tempus, page 30

News Corp to defend $5bn lawsuit

BY ERIC REGULY

PLANS by EchoStar and The News Corporation to merge their American satellite operations collapsed yesterday after EchoStar launched a $5 billion lawsuit against News Corp, alleging breach of contract.

A spokesman for News Corp, parent company of *The Times*, said: "We do not think their case has any merit. We will fight the case in court."

EchoStar is seeking the damages because of "lost profits" and what it alleges were "material breaches" of the merger agreement made in February, in which News Corp agreed to pay $1 billion in cash and assets for a 50 per cent stake in EchoStar.

EchoStar revealed last month that the deal was in jeopardy, but News Corp held out hope that the transaction could be completed. News Corp said it is now "pursuing a number of options" to enter the digital satellite-TV market in the US.

Topps Tiles plans flotation

BY FRASER NELSON

TOPPS TILES, a chain of specialist tile shops, is coming to the market next month through a placing to raise £5 million.

The flotation, which values the company at £20 million, will make paper millionaires of Berry Bester, chief executive and Stuart Williams, chairman.

They founded the company in London 13 years ago, and will now share a stake worth £8 million. The company runs 54 stores in England and Wales, and last returned pre-tax profits of £2 million on sales of £16 million — a 16 per cent share of the market.

It expects demand for tiles to grow by 20 per cent over the next three years, and plans to open a further 50 stores. Mr Williams said the company will look at stores in the out-of-town warehouse format.

The company will raise £5 million from the placing, after redeeming loan stock worth £2.7 million.

Ethical seeks full SE listing to raise £20m

ETHICAL HOLDINGS, a UK biotech company trading on the American Nasdaq market, is to seek a full listing on the London Stock Exchange (Adam Jones writes).

The move had been rumoured since Dr Peter Fellner, chief executive of Celltech, one of the biggest UK biotech players, joined the board as a non-executive director last month.

Ethical, which is based in Stibbington, Cambridgeshire, aims to raise £20 million of new money to fund the development of new drug delivery systems. Existing products include controlled-release tablets for angina and hypertension, and adhesive patches for hormone replacement therapy.

The company said that it wants to boost revenue by increasing the amount of manufacturing and marketing done in-house. Ethical incurred a pre-tax loss of £11 million on turnover of £13.8 million in the year to last August 31, having recorded a £3.44 million profit in 1995. The fall was a result of a steep increase in research and development costs.



On May 1, as the country looked to its future, we were doing much the same.

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Not bad for a first day

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Market raises its glass to Guinness and Wall Street

IT WAS cheers all round for investors as Guinness stunned the City with a proposed link with Grand Metropolitan to form a £20.6 billion drinks and food giant. That, combined with another near-100-point leap on Wall Street, put fresh life back into share prices just when they looked like running out of steam.

As a result, the FT-SE 100 index recovered from a hesitant start to close at its best of the day with a rise of 38.7 to a new high of 4,669.6. Turnover were again light with 762 million shares traded.

Some reassuring comments on the outlook for inflation from Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, helped to cheer sentiment. Now investors must wait anxiously for next month's Budget.

Brokers gave a unanimous vote of approval to the proposed merger between **Guinness**, up 86p at 602½p, and **Grand Metropolitan**, 76½p higher at 591½p. It will create one of the biggest drink and food companies in the world and shareholders will be rewarded with a 60p a share bonus payment worth a total of £2.4 billion.

It also focused attention on other drink companies, with **Allied Domecq** shrugging off recent weakness to see a rise of 18p at 446½p ahead of today's figures. Brokers such as NatWest Securities are forecasting a downturn in pre-tax profits from £321 million to £319 million.

The bid speculation also spilled over into **Cadbury Schweppes**, a favourite with the speculators, as the price surged 23p to 552p. Elsewhere in the drinks sector, **Whitbread** rose 4p to 801½p, **Luminar** 7p to 419½p, **JD Wetherspoon** 11p to £11.85, and **Old English Pubs** 10p to 266½p.

Provident Financial jumped 20p to a new high of 621½p after deciding to spend some of its cash pile in buying back shares. The home collection finance group is purchasing up to 17 million shares, or 6.3 per cent of the issued share capital, in order to enhance earnings. The buyback will be conducted by the company's joint brokers Dresdner Kleinwort Benson and ABN Amro Hoare Govett.

A bid approach hoisted **Canadian Pizza** 10½p to 100p, where the group carries a price tag of £18 million. Recent speculation has suggested that two separate parties have been stalking the group, including the Kent family, which founded the business.



Dennis Holt and Michael Smith, of API, reported a big rise

The cautious noises made by **Argos** in March appear to have been justified. Yesterday the shares fell 24½p to 623p after the catalogue retailer said profits for the first half were unlikely to match those for the corresponding period.

The warning failed to ruffle the rest of the retailers with gains for **Great Universal Stores** of 14p to 669½p, **Blacks Leisure** 17½p to 511½p, **JJB Sports** 13½p to 500p and **Next** 5p to 696½p. **Flying Flowers** was also a firm market jumping 12p to 351½p as speculators pondered events at Interflora where members have just ousted the board in the face of a bid from across the Atlantic.

Safeway continued to lose ground falling 7p to 331p ahead of figures this week. On Friday, SBC Warburg, the broker, downgraded its recommendation for the shares from a "buy" to a "sell". Other brokers fear that the upturn in sales reported by the likes of **Sainsbury**, up 8½p at 372½, **Tesco**, 3p better at 380½p, and **Asda**, 1¼p to 119¾p, have been at the expense of Safeway.

Ladbroke stood out with a rise of 12p at 254p after some bullish comments about trading at the annual meeting. Profits in the first four months were substantially higher, boosted by lower interest charges and a pick-up in betting.

API shrugged off the ill-effects of a strong pound to post a 44 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £6.1 million. The group reported a healthy order book but saw profits suffer a setback at its foil and laminates division. The shares were unchanged at 725p.

Shares of **Wakebourne** were suspended at 10½p pending clarification of its financial position after bid talks were abandoned. The computer software group has been in talks with a third party for some time, but any offer for Wakebourne would be made at a substantial discount to the current ruling price.

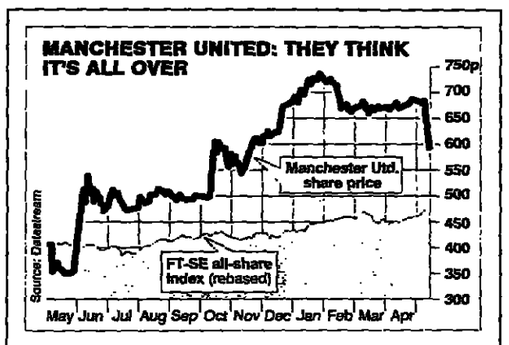
Rugby Estates rose 4p to 160p after completing the acquisition of a site in Covent Garden for £8.4 million. Hillsdown Holdings has disposed of its 16 per cent holding in the company. The shares were placed with institutions.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Improved sentiment about the outlook for short-term interest rates led to a small steepening of the yield curve as shorter dated issues outperformed the longer end of the market.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt finished seven ticks better at £114$^{7}/_{16}$ amid higher than average turnover for the start of the week. By the close of business 74,000 contracts had been completed.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on a couple of ticks at £109$^{15}/_{32}$, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £3^{16} better at £103$^{23}/_{32}$.

NEW YORK: Stocks were sharply higher at midday yesterday, with the Dow Jones industrial average up 86.96 points at 7,256.49, amid a growing view that the Federal Reserve may not raise interest rates at next week's policy-making meeting.



Sunderland ended 39½p lower at 445p after being relegated from the Premier League. It was floated in December at 585p.

Nigel Hawkins, who follows football clubs for Yamaichi, the Japanese securities house, said: "It's going to be a regular end-of-season occurence, especially for those clubs involved in promotion or regulation." He urges investors to be selective. "Investing in football can be volatile and speculative. There are one or two clubs worth investing at the top of the Premier League. There are only one of or two clubs outside the Premier with a big City following that I'm keen on."

Southampton has clung on to Premiership status by the skin of its teeth. The shares ended 3½p down at 101p. Manchester United, which last week clinched the championship for the fourth time in five years, lost 14p at 591½p. Newcastle United rose 3½p to 123p after securing a place in the European Cup. Newcomer Aston Villa shed 20p to 975p and now stands 125p below last week's placing price.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 7256.49 (+86.96)
S&P Composite 833.75 (+8.97)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20143.51 (+340.73)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 13987.8 (+57.0)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 788.08 (+7.27)

Sydney:
AO 2524.8 (-1.2)

Frankfurt:
DAX 3575.37 (+12.96)

Singapore:
Straits 2101.48 (+35.27)

Brussels:
General 12647.62 (+85.96)

Paris:
CAC-40 2693.09 (+39.18)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 1032.40 (+6.50)

London:

FT 30	3014.3 (+54.0)
FTSE 100	4669.6 (+38.7)
FTSE 250	4526.4 (+0.2)
FTSE 350	2262.6 (+15.1)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2294.96 (+7.14)
FTSE All-Share	2222.19 (+14.18)
FTSE Non Financials	2230.95 (+20.43)
FTSE Fixed Interest	121.24 (+1.57)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.57 (-0.63)
Bargains	63355
SEAQ Volume	763.1m
US$	1.6248 (+0.0055)
German Mark	2.7631 (+0.0210)
Exchange Index	98.5 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4099
£:SDR	1.1814
RPI	155.4 Mar (2.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.9 Mar (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Alliance & Leicester	613½	–	12½
Aston Villa	975	–	20
Aurora Inv Trust	101	+	½
Cable & Wirless	286½		...
Charlton Athletic	57½		...
Close Bros Prot VCT	95		...
Comino	147½		...
Donatantonio	83	+	1½
Dragons Hlth Clubs	125½		...
Heal's	212½		...
ITG Group	160	–	2½
Lady in Leisure	126½	–	1
Longbridge Intl	117½		...
M Currie I&G Cap	91½		...
M Currie I&G Inc	98		...
NMT (50)	50		...
Newcastle Utd	123	+	3½
Northstar Secs	29		...
Oxford Tech Venture	115		...
Partners Hldgs	171½		...
Pennine AIM VCT II	100		...
Petra Diamonds	62½	+	2
Petra Diamonds Wts	37½		...
Qualceram (143)	155½		...
Salehurst	121½		...
Soccer Investments	103½		...
Torch Hldgs	107½		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ask Central n/p (160)	55		...
Barlows n/p (525)	2		...
Bolton Group n/p (8)	½		...
Brk for the Brdr (51)	1¼		...
Enter Inns n/p (196)	52½		...
Oxford Mkt n/p (360)	34		...
Rackwood Mn n/p (50)	1¼	+	½

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Guinness	602½p (+86p)
Amstrad	253½p (+32p)
MAID	229½p (+15p)
Bk of Ireland	687½p (+30p)
Cadbury-Schw	552p (+23p)
Filtronic Com	371½p (+15p)

FALLS:

RCO	215p (-10p)
Argos	623p (-24½p)
Telspec	285p (-10p)
Legal & Gen	468p (-13½p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Drinks before the deals

TWO HIPPOS of the drinks sector feel happy enough with new Labour to make a big splash in their corner of the pond. It is therefore fair to assume that other corporate beasts will now be thinking of takeovers. The market is bullish, and macro-economic policy is safe with the now independent Bank of England. So, the only question is whether Labour will tighten the competition rules or pursue a corporatist approach? With so much promised and so few resources to pay for it, this Government needs allies. Its former friends, the trade unions, have not the means to help.

Fuelled by a buoyant market, more takeovers must be on the cards, and the media sector could soon spring into life. While in opposition, Labour showed little anxiety about cross-media ownership, having sought even greater relaxation of the rules in the last Broadcasting Bill, and, over the next few years, the issue will be which company or group of companies exercises total control over the ITV network.

The big issues are costs and advertising revenues. The addition of the fourth and fifth terrestrial channels, and satellite and soon digital terrestrial broadcasting has eroded the advertising clout of the old ITV network. Its main backers, Carlton and Granada will need to cut costs if they are to maintain their margins and compete with American imports. That suggests consolidation and could open the door to a deal with United News & Media in which United gave up its ITV companies in exchange for control of Channel 5. With so much at stake, the Government needs to tread gently, but a corporatist Labour Government has friends in the media.

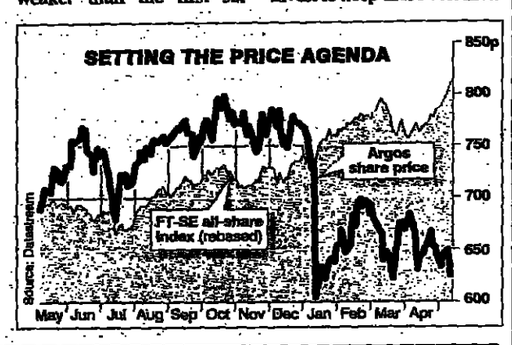
Argos

ARGOS suffered a dent to its reputation when it issued a profit warning back in January. A top-rated retailing group, it suddenly looked wobbly, like a prize fighter who has taken an unexpected blow on the chin.

Yesterday's trading statement should not have worried the market unduly. Argos cautioned in March that it would be difficult to replicate last year's record first-half performance. More explicitly yesterday, the company said that the first half "is unlikely to match" last year's profits.

The problem is costs and comparative figures. Argos needs both to invest in expansion and to maintain price leadership. The 5.5 per cent like-for-like growth reported may not look stunning but Argos also cut its prices by 2 per cent, so volumes are up 7.5 per cent. In the first quarter last year, sales were up 9 per cent and, in the second quarter, a stunning 13 per cent. The task for Argos is to ensure that the year as a whole shows growth and, fortunately for the company, the second half of last year was weaker than the first six months, particularly around Christmas, leaving room to improve this time round.

Argos shares have taken a tumble this year, but they are still rated at a premium to the market. Retailers need to work hard for sales and Argos, which sells on price rather than service, is no exception. It still has to invest to keep those volumes.



Prov Financial

IF Labour is seeking another cat to skin, it could do worse than tax the purveyors of loans at extortionate interest rates. Provident Financial, is earning a return on equity of 43 per cent from its door-to-door small loans business. So profitable is the operation that it is now copying its posher brethren, the big banks, with a buyback of 6 per cent of its shares.

If you have no permanent job, no credit card and no chance of an overdraft, Provident will lend you £100 but the interest charged and the principal will add up to a sum of £159 by the end of the year. Provident points out that the overheads are more expensive than a convention-al lender because it depends on door-to-door payments and collections — each agent pockets 8 per cent of the interest. However, the operation is not as risky as you might think: bad debts are 5 per cent of the loan book, high by the standards of banks but low when you consider the customer base — and the huge gross margin.

Investors can sleep easy. Provident is probably not a big enough cat to be worth skinning and its astonishing growth record shows every sign of continuing at a rapid rate. With gearing at only 50 per cent at the year end, Provident can clearly afford further buy-backs. Yet, it is curious that companies that so rampantly exploit the financial weakness of others attract so little attention.

Ladbroke

AT THE cinema the success of the re-released *Star Wars* was followed by queues round the block for *The Empire Strikes Back*. But thrill seekers need not go to the pictures. Just pop down to the local betting shop to see the success of the 49ers game in *Lottery Wars* or the law courts for *The Camelot Strikes Back*.

Camelot is so rattled that it is taking a private prosecution against Ladbroke, William Hill and Coral to try and stop 49ers, evidence that the betting industry's strategy is working. Yesterday Ladbroke revealed it was taking in £60 million a year from the game. This means that it should regain nearly half the ground it lost from the launch of Camelot.

Meanwhile, the benefits from the alliance with Hilton Hotels Corporation in the US are now starting to filter through. With Hilton due to take a stake in Ladbroke later this year, it is easy to see why the City feels optimistic that Ladbroke is becoming a more stable operation.

A reasonable trading statement saw analysts marking projections of this year's profits up to around £212 million. The shares continued their excellent run to put on 12p to 254p. But there is still more to go for at Ladbroke.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	1001-999	Jul	1060-1059
Jul	1017-1016	Sep	1073-1072
Sep	1034-1033	Dec	1090-1079
Dec	1029-1027	Mar	1094-1093
Mar	1035-1035		
May	1049-1047	Volume: 2279	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1725-1720	Jan	1774-1772
Jul	1778-1775	Mar	1760-1760
Sep	1795-1792	May	1750-1720
Nov	1800-1795	Volume: 3106	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	302.5-01.0
Spot: 318.0		May	301.0-00.0
Aug	316.0-15.5	Aug	302.5-03.0
Oct	305.4-05.0	Dec	297.0-00.0
Dec	303.5-02.5	Volume: 1959	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average farmers prices at representative markets on May 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	107.11	149.30	89.53
+/-	+3.79	+5.27	+1.02
Eng/Wales	107.11	147.03	89.38
+/-	+3.79	+6.76	+1.29
Scotland	no quote	126.95	91.07
+/-		+11.07	+1.18
N.I.		+9.0	+7.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.50	+1.20
Brent 15 day (Jun)	19.60	+1.05
Brent 15 day (Jul)	19.40	+0.85
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	21.35	+1.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	21.20	+1.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	205 (+3)	209 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	173 (+2)	174 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	81 (+3)	82 (+2)
Naphtha	176 (+1)	178 (nil)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jun	173.25-73.50	Sep	177.00-77.25
Jul	174.25-74.50	Oct	178.75-79.00
Aug	175.25-75.75	Vol: 23893	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	19.60-19.61	Sep	19.28 BID
Jul	19.40-19.43	Oct	19.27-19.32
Aug	19.33-19.35	Vol: 35382	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	91.25	May	90.50
Jul	93.25	Sep	91.25
Sep	94.25	Nov	93.25
Nov	96.25	Jan	96.25
Jan	96.25	Mar	97.25
		Volume: 77	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t) Open Close

Jun		54.0
Nov		97.5
Mar		106.0
	Volume: 117	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jan 77.25-77.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 97	1332	1325	1330
Jun 97	1300	1295	1295
Jul 97	1270	1270	1270
Oct 97	nma	nma	1242
Vol: 30 lots		Open interest: 2535	
	Index 1279-84		

(Official) (Volume prev day)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Grade A ($/tonne)	2464.0-2466.0	2480.0-2482.0	5248 (8361)
Lead ($/tonne)	810.50-811.00	822.00-823.00	2475 (3000)
Zinc Spec Hi Grade ($/tonne)	1306.0-1310.0	1329.5-1330.0	6293 (8350)
Tin ($/tonne)	5440.0-5445.0	5490.0-5495.0	2475 (2475)
Aluminium Hi Grade ($/tonne)	1642.0-1642.5	1647.5-1648.0	2525 (2500)
Nickel ($/tonne)	7743.0-7747.0	7743.0-7750.0	1425 (1425)

FTSE INDEX (4669.6)

4550 4600 4650 4700 4750 4800

LIFFE OPTIONS

Calls / Puts

Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Allid Dom	42½	59	80	4½	7	14
4400	190	95	109	2½	29½	35
ASDA	120	5	9	30½	4½	9
420	170	11	18	7	18	24
Bouts	700	54	86½	4½	16	24
720	730	10½	23	32	46	52
Br Airways	700	26½	47	54½	25	34
720	730	8½	22	33	54	65
BP	700	52	66½	17	36	44
750	750	21	39	50	79	82
Br Steel	140	13½	15	19	4	9½
150	150	3½	6	7½	18	19
C & W	500	32½	45	87½	15	24½
550	550	11½	27	55	45½	52
Cable	700	84	99	106	14	36
750	750	39½	63½	80½	34	60
ICI	750	52	66½	80	9	23½
7500	800	23	37	53½	26	40½
Land Sec	650	29½	43	55	21½	30
700	700	7	21	32	59	62
M & S	500	23	35	43	13½	18
550	550	5	14	20	45½	48½
Nat West	900	41½	57	76	24	45
950	950	19½	35	53	53	70
Safeway plc	330	12½	20	27	17	20
340	340	3½	9½	15½	39	41
Sainsbury	360	15½	24½	31	10½	15½
380	380	3½	13	18½	31	33
Shell	1100	65½	93½	109½	14	31
1150	1150	37	64	80½	52	62
SmAl Bch	1000	73	101	122	21	36
1050	1050	43½	73	95½	62½	68
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—
330	330	—	—	—	—	—
Tralfalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—
60	60	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1900	107	154½	234½	69	93
2000	2000	62	107½	184	119½	132

Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAT Ind	500	69½	79	7½	12	24½
550	550	21½	34	47½	54½	59½
Sedgwick	280	17½	26½	12½	19½	23
300	300	8½	17½	23½	31	35½

Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	500	92½	98	89½	41	57
550	550	42½	56½	115	114	114
Ladbroke	240	14	23	24½	1	5½
260	260	2	12	14	30	34½
Utd Biscs	220	4½	14½	10½	3	10
240	240	0	6½	30½	14	22½

Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA	500	34	47	55	8	12½
550	550	10½	21	30	33	37
Thames W	650	41½	58	56½	25½	32
700	700	16½	27½	54½	55½	61

Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	200	16	25½	3½	11	4
220	220	3½	13	18½	5	11
Br Aero	1250	54½	68	120	27½	35
1300	1300	19	36	92	47½	55
Br Telecm	450	32½	42	46	6	12
500	500	9½	19½	53½	31	37
Cadbury	550	31	41	40	2	20
600	600	5½	15	110	50	55
Guinness	600	11	24	63	8	20½
650	650	3½	9	44	—	40½
LucasVarity	360	8½	19½	25½	2	15
390	390	0	7	13	27½	36
Hanson	300	30	39	44½	0	9½
320	320	11	21	30	46½	52
Reuter	650	54½	71	33	11½	21
700	700	29½	49½	57½	34	49
Royal & Sun	650	39½	54½	22½	25½	36
700	700	13½	34½	75½	59½	65½

Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Blue Circ	420	7½	25½	33½	11½	24
460	460	1½	9½	38½	41½	47½

Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Kingfisher	700	13½	47½	—	24½	35
750	750	1½	19½	56½	44½	54½

Series	Jun	Aug
Br Gas	240	11½
260	260	3½

Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Dixons	900	82½	84½	58½	9½	20½
950	950	48½	57½	107½	56½	66½
EMI Group	1250	165½	198½	122½	46½	61½
1300	1300	84½	112½	147½	80½	92½
Tarmac	120	9½	13½	14½	2½	7½
130	130	3½	6½	21½	7½	13½
Hillsdown	160	15½	22½	—	0½	1½
170	170	4½	9½	11½	6½	10½
Ladbroke	230	9½	18½	26½	1½	5½
240	240	4½	11½	6½	10½	13½
Sainsbury	360	15½	24½	31½	10½	15½
380	380	3½	13½	18½	31½	33½
Tesco	360	21½	33½	39½	11½	20½
380	380	2½	15½	23½	32½	35½
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—
360	360	—	—	—	—	—

Calls	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
May	129	82½	96½	13½	3½	11
Jun	160	129	95½	46½	44½	57
Jul	200	167½	131	99½	76	93½
Aug	209*	176	144½	115½	98	98½
Dec	–	261	–	214	–	169
Puts						
May	2	5½	15	43	89½	130½
Jun	12*	45*	63	86½	114½	150
Jul	31	64½	83	102	130½	162
Aug	63	90	99	121	149	177
Dec	–	176	–	173½	–	222½

May 12, 1997 Tot: 7636 Call: 57099
Put: 18167 FTSE Call: 2357* Put: 3726
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 97	114-10	114-16	113-29	114-14	74817
Previous open interest: 221125	Sep 97	114-16	114-24	114-07	114-24	1753
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 97	101.83	102.32	101.79	102.27	149869
Previous open interest: 291225	Sep 97	100.86	101.33	100.86	101.29	5827
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 97	129.32	129.80	129.07	129.52	30470
Previous open interest: 120941	Sep 97	129.55	130.00	129.20	130.01	185
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 97	123.55	123.42	123.22	123.34	3484
	Sep 97	122.18	122.04	121.89	121.97	1964
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 97	93.46	93.50	93.46	93.48	14579
	Sep 97	93.24	93.30	93.24	93.27	27522
Previous open interest: 503338	Dec 97	93.08	93.16	93.08	93.14	33524
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 97	96.78	96.80	96.78	96.80	12628
Previous open interest: 1489847	Sep 97	96.75	96.76	96.74	96.76	14235
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 97	93.25	93.28	93.19	93.25	12660
Previous open interest: 314533	Sep 97	93.57	93.58	93.52	93.56	19186
Three Mth Euroyen	Sep 97				99.12	0
	Dec 97	98.87	98.87	98.87	98.87	100
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 97	98.21	98.25	98.19	98.24	6588
Previous open interest: 129054	Sep 97	98.20	98.24	98.18	98.23	6998
Three Mth ECU	Jun 97	95.84	95.87	95.83	95.86	711
Previous open interest: 52431	Sep 97	95.84	95.87	95.82	95.87	580
FTSE 100	Jun 97	4648.0	4680.0	4627.0	4664.0	14790
Previous open interest: 20708	Sep 97	4672.0	4716.5	4666.0	4715.0	316

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6% Finance Hse 6%
Discount Market Loans O/night high: 6% Low 4 Week fixed: 6%
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅜ : 3 mth 5⅜ .. Sell: 2 mth 5⅛ : 3 mth 5⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛
Interbank:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛
Overnight: open 6⅛, close 6					
Local Authority Deps:	6%	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.58	n/a	5.71	5.87	6.15
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅜-5⅛	5⅜-5⅛	5⅜-5⅛	6-5⅞	5⅜-4⅞
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-2⅞
French Franc:	3¼-3	3¼-3	3¼-3	3¼-3	3¼-2¾
Swiss Franc:	1¼-1	1¼-1	1¼-1	1¼-1	2⅛-1⅞
Yen:	⅛-0	⅛-0	⅛-0	⅛-0	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $348.70-349.00 Close: $349.90-350.40 High: $350.40-350.90
Low: $347.10-347.60 AM: $348.20 PM: $348.20

Krugerrand: $349.00-351.00 £215.00-217.00

Platinum: $391.00 (£241.90) Silver: $4.91 (£3.015) Palladium: $169.25 (£104.75)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 12

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.0653-3.1094	3.1063-3.1094	½c-par	2¼c-2½pr
Brussels	56.239-57.080	56.909-57.080	16-14pr	49-42pr
Copenhagen	10.375-10.528	10.517-10.528	¼c-par	¾c-par
Dublin	1.0507-1.0721	1.0706-1.0721	4pr-par	14-8pr
Frankfurt	2.7253-2.7641	2.7615-2.7643	½c-par	2¼c-2½pr
Lisbon	274.94-278.52	278.27-278.52	¼c-par	¾c-par
Madrid	230.77-233.85	233.63-233.85	22-12pr	70-52pr
Milan	2705 +-2742.2	2738.0-2742.2	11-20dis	22-44dis
Montreal	2.2494-2.2593	2.2570-2.2593	0.00-0.00pr	1.10-1.11pr
New York	1.6168-1.6257	1.6243-1.6253	0.005-0.003pr	0.20-0.23pr
Oslo	11.344-11.531	11.516-11.531	¼c-par	¼c-par
Paris	9.1803-9.3178	9.3098-9.3178	2¼c-2¾c	7c-6½c
Stockholm	12.348-12.496	12.478-12.496	¼c-par	¼c-par
Tokyo	191.74-192.66	192.39-192.66	1¼c-1pr	2¾c-2½pr
Vienna	19.178-19.456	19.436-19.456	¼c-par	1¼c-1pr
Zurich	2.3284-2.3539	2.3512-2.3539	¼c-par	2¼c-2pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - dis.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2853-1.2861
Austria	11.94-11.95
Belgium (Com)	35.00-35.05
Canada	1.3909-1.3914
Denmark	6.4604-6.4624
France	5.7205-5.7225
Germany	1.6961-1.6968
Hong Kong	7.7435-7.7445
Ireland	1.5155-1.5175
Italy	1682.50-1684.00
Japan	118.35-118.45
Malaysia	2.5105-2.5112
Netherlands	1.9085-1.9095
Norway	7.0655-7.0728
Portugal	170.87-170.92
Singapore	1.4347-1.4357
Spain	143.57-143.60
Sweden	7.6702-7.6776
Switzerland	1.4310-1.4320

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso	1.6180-1.6207
Australia dollar	2.0775-2.0795
Bahrain dinar	0.6040-0.6160
Brazil real	1.7225-1.7269
China yuan	13.259-13.357
Cyprus pound	0.8080-0.8180
Finland markka	8.1775-8.2935
Greece drachma	431.75-438.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.5174-12.5244
India rupee	57.58-58.54
Indonesia rupiah	3894.0-3936.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4845-0.4945
Malaysia ringgit	4.0570-4.0611
New Zealand dollar	2.3228-2.3269
Pakistan rupee

Food and drinks rivals left exposed by merger bombshell

Alasdair Murray on the global repercussions of the unexpected 'big bang' deal by Guinness and GrandMet

The City was quick to dub the bombshell merger between Grand Metropolitan and Guinness as the consumer industries' "big bang". At a stroke, and with impressively little warning given the number of parties involved in preparing the deal, the two companies have revolutionised the global spirits and food market.

The figures involved in the £23.8 billion deal are staggering. It is the biggest merger between two British companies — creating the UK's eighth-largest quoted company. GMG Brands, as it will be known, becomes the world's seventh-largest branded foods and drinks business, and the leading spirits and wine company with combined annual sales above 100 million cases.

The repercussions will be felt further afield than the boardrooms of British rivals such as Allied Domecq and Cadbury Schweppes. Seagram, the other main player in the drinks market, will have to take notice but companies as diverse as Nestlé and Pepsi Cola will also want to work out what it could mean for their plans.

The two chairmen claimed yesterday to have dreamt up the merger over dinner. But the seeds of the merger were sown at the start of the last recession when the major drinks companies began to catch a cold after the heady days of the 1980s.

The drinks companies suddenly found they could no longer sell branded spirits at will. Consumers had grown more price-conscious and resistant to the traditional aspirational-led marketing campaigns. The companies responded by cutting back on marketing spend to protect profits and found that they were losing market share to the own-brand labels being sold in the supermarkets. At the same time, the emerging markets — the promised lands of global expansion — were not yet contributing serious profits.

Guinness and Grand Metropolitan were left sounding like a scratched record constantly telling the City that volume improvements and price increases were just around the corner. But profits steadfastly refused to budge.

Guinness began to come under pressure from Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton and a major shareholder, to demerge its brewing arm. At Grand Metropolitan, Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, who had led the company's 1980s takeover frenzy, stepped down as chairman to be replaced last year by George Bull, who promised the City he would tidy up the sprawling conglomerate to concentrate on its US food and global spirits businesses. But the companies still failed to impress the market. Guinness underperformed the FT-SE 100 by 13 per cent last year, while GrandMet lagged the benchmark UK index by 7 per cent.

The City wanted to see the companies take more radical action and eagerly seized on a leaked Lazard's report last year detailing how Guinness could launch a £13 billion takeover bid for GrandMet. Guinness would raise £10 billion in cash and recoup the costs by selling off GrandMet's food interests.

But Guinness dismissed the idea as a "fantasy boardroom" project never intended to see the light of day. In the process Tony Greener, Guinness's chairman, also ruled out demerging the brewing business, further infuriating M. Arnault.

But less than a year later the fantasy has come close to reality, leaving the City with few bad words to say about the deal. There is little overlap between the brands, which should help the two companies to clear expected regulatory hurdles in Europe and America. International Distillers and Vintner's, the spirits subsidiary of GrandMet, is strong in white spirits suh as Smirnoff vodka, the world's second-best spirits seller, Bailey's and Malibu. But the company only has one major whisky in J&B, which is the second-largest selling brand of Scotch worldwide. In contrast, Guinness's strength is almost entirely in whisky and gin, with Johnnie Walker, Bell's, Gordon's Gin and Tanqueray among its best-known brands. Analysts believe that a sell-off of some of the lesser whisky brands such as Dewars, owned by Guinness, would quickly satisfy the authorities in the US.

In global terms the new company will have 5 per cent of the total world spirits market, including locally produced and consumed alcohols. More importantly, it will control 10 per cent of the branded spirits market with the largest number of top ten brands.

The strength of the merged group's portfolio means that the two companies have stolen a major lead on their rivals. The biggest victim is Allied Domecq — long regarded as the weakest member of the sector. Allied needs to find strategic partners fast to prevent its market share being further eroded. But analysts believe it will only be able to do so on terms set by stronger rivals, such as Seagram or Brown-Forman Corporation, the US company that owns Jack Daniel's. Neither is likely to be attracted to Allied while its share price contains a hefty bid premium.

The two companies insisted yesterday that the food brands, which include Burger King and Pillsbury, would remain a major part of the group. Mr Bull again repeated the GrandMet refrain that branded food and branded drinks offer a high degree of synergy. Some analysts believe that the group may be tempted to expand its business, possibly looking at Cadbury, which is also rumoured to be a target for cash-rich Unilever. But in the medium term the expectation is that some of the food assets, particularly Burger King, will come onto the market.

The company has also restated its commitment to Guinness Brewing although companies such as Anheuser Busch, which owns Budweiser, and Heineken would love to get their hands on the famous Irish stout. The merged company's more likely immediate strategy is to dump some past failures such as Cruzcampo. Guinness's Spanish brewing operation.

The one wild card in the merger is M. Arnault. Although LVMH has been selling down its stake in Guinness, it still owns 14.2 per cent of the company — sufficient to make trouble. M. Arnault made it clear yesterday that he will continue to oppose the merger and try to sell his alternative plan of floating off the merged spirits businesses of the three companies as the way forward

The City believes there is an element of pique about M. Arnault's behaviour. LVMH sold its shares earlier this year at 414p compared, with Guinness' closing price yesterday of 602½p. He was also barely consulted and has been forced off the new board. Most analysts believe there is little that LVMH will be able to do beyond selling its watered down 6.7 per cent stake in the new company. But M. Arnault is hinting darkly that with the merger scheduled to take a year to complete there is still plenty of time to find an interested party who might be prepared to listen to LVMH.

A HEADY COCKTAIL OF BRANDS





ANATOLE KALETSKY

No thanks in higher taxes

"Don't tax you, don't tax me: tax the man behind the tree." This little ditty, which serves as a sort of Mission Statement for the lobbyists' fraternity on Capitol Hill in Washington, will soon become a favourite in the restaurants of Westminster and Mayfair as Britain's business community prepares to face the first Labour Budget since 1979.

Never before has a newly elected left-wing Government been greeted by a chorus of business leaders begging to pay more tax. Within days of the election, the CBI, the British Chambers of Commerce and the Institute of Directors had all issued passionate declarations of national interest, imploring Gordon Brown to raise taxes. Not satisfied with these generalised institutional voices, the chairmen of British Steel, ICI and a host of other major companies have added their personal pleas. "Our companies are in deep trouble," they have said to the new Chancellor. "Only you can to save us. Help us, we beg you, by letting us pay more tax."

I have exaggerated slightly. None of the above gentlemen has actually asked the to increase his *own* taxes or given any idea of whose taxes should rise. This suggests that the strange post-election consensus in favour of higher taxes will break up rather quickly with the approach of a real Labour Budget with real money at stake. It seems worth pondering, therefore, whether the huge tax increases now being discussed in financial markets are likely to be as dramatic as investors seem to expect.

There are four possible reasons why the Chancellor may want to raise taxes. He may want more money for public spending. This would be popular, but Mr Brown has already ruled it out. Secondly, he may want to raise certain taxes in order to cut others, for example to increase incentives for work or long-term investment. This sort of action is likely to bear out Mr Brown's hints about a very radical Budget. But redirecting money from one tax to another does nothing for the overall stance of fiscal policy, which is what the financial markets (and the Bank of England) primarily care about.

Thirdly, the Chancellor may want to dampen what he sees as an unhealthy consumption boom. This might be a good reason for raising taxes if interest rates were simultaneously cut and sterling devalued to take up the resulting economic slack. But Mr Brown can no longer give any assurances about monetary policy and exchange rates. The Bank of England would be unlikely to cut interest rates in response to a fiscal tightening. More probably it would continue to push rates upwards until it saw tangible signs of slowing consumer demand. Unless Britain were lucky enough to enjoy a depreciation of sterling for some totally external reason (such as the yen-dollar tensions seen in the last few days) the economy would therefore be hit by a double-whammy of decelerating domestic *and* foreign demand. This would make life much harder, not easier, for the likes of British Steel and ICI.

Finally the Chancellor might want to raise taxes simply because higher taxation was popular as an end in itself. This was what Labour Chancellors got away with in the 1960s and 1970s. As long as business opinion continues with its present bleating for higher taxes, Mr Brown may enjoy the same luxury as his Labour predecessors to raise revenues without having to justify this on any rational grounds. But Mr Brown is a shrewd politician and knows that today's consensus in favour of higher taxes will not last far beyond Budget day.

Having given up the main instrument of demand management to the Bank of England, he will not want his first Budget to be judged by its success (or failure) in manipulating consumption, interest rates or the pound. I suspect he will therefore limit the macroeconomic judgment in his Budget to a quite modest fiscal tightening. He would prefer his first Budget to be remembered for radical reforms of welfare than for higher taxes whose purpose nobody could quite understand.

Deal may rectify negative image

Tony Greener's dour and offhand demeanour has not endeared him to the City since he took over as chairman of Guinness in 1992. "Arrogant" and "unapproachable" are some of the less-than-flattering terms flung at Mr Greener, 56, over the past four years.

It was Mr Greener's misfortune to take control just as the recession began to bite. But the City believes that he has hardly helped his cause by being overly reluctant to listen to his critics — not least Bernard Arnault — when results failed to support his belief that Guinness was on the verge of recovery.

After Marlborough College, he joined his family's cotton business. Mr Greener then served a couple of years on the factory floor at a Unilever paper factory before moving into management. But it was his successful term at Dunhill that first established his reputation. He helped to turn a £15 million tobacco company into a £350 million luxury goods business before he moved to Guinness in the aftermath of Ernest Saunders's over-zealous pursuit of Distillers.


Greener: 'dour and offhand'

Mr Greener once competed in the Sydney to Hobart yacht race but, as work has become dominant, he has had to confine his leisure pursuits to skiing. His role in sealing the GrandMet deal suggests that he has not been as conservative in his thinking as the City believed.

Management style earns respect

In contrast to Tony Greener, George Bull is regarded as affable and open, which may explain the superior City rating GrandMet has commanded since he became chairman last year. The City is also keen on contrasting his consensual management style with the tough regime of his predecessor, Lord Sheppard of Didgemere.

Mr Bull went to Ampleforth, the Catholic public school in Yorkshire, before spending a few years in the Coldstream Guards. Colleagues say he sometimes still addresses meetings as if he were in military mode, and there is a legendary tale of Mr Bull donning a Second World War helmet to rally his troops during a particular crisis at IDV in the 1970s.

After a spell in advertising and marketing school, Mr Bull began his career as an export salesman at one of the forerunner companies of International Distillers and Vintners, working his way up through the GrandMet organisation before a short spell in charge of food. He won Lord Sheppard's backing to become chief executive, and finally chairman, seeing off a number of rivals in GrandMet's bloody succession battles. He is one of the first chief executives to be completely computer literate and is rarely without his portable on business trips. Mr Bull will continue as joint chairman until he retires next year.


Bull: 'affable and open'

French predator wary of spotlight

Bernard Arnault has been the joker in the pack at Guinness since taking a cross-shareholding in the company. The relationship between M Arnault and the Guinness board has soured in recent years and he was widely credited with leaking the Lazard takeover document last year to put further pressure on the company to follow his demerger plans. He has since reduced LVMH's shareholding to 14.2 per cent.

M Arnault has bemused and intrigued analysts in London and Paris since he emerged on the French business scene in the 1980s. His ruthless management style and use of complex "cascade" financing that limits his direct investment in takeover targets, has upset the French establishment. Pierre Berge of Yves St Laurent described M Arnault as a "bird of prey", intent on devouring famous-name companies.

He dislikes the celebrity lifestyle and has often been accused of being unfashionable. Investors have been unhappy with his lack of openness, especially when LVMH struggled in recent years. But M Arnault has normally managed to sidestep his critics, most recently winning plaudits for a $2.6 billion takeover of DFS, the US duty-free company. He is unlikely to take the merger passively but with his shareholding diluted there is probably little he can do but sell out.


Arnault: 'joker in the pack'

LOSING SLEEP?

foreclosure *n.* 1 shut down golf course (after *errant bull on head*) 2 one better than a fiveclosure 3 take possession of a property because an owner cannot repay money.

liquidate *v.* 1 a blind date, usually with a member of the *Campaign For Real Ale* 2 wind up the affairs (of a company) by ascertaining liabilities and apportioning assets.

tax *n.* 1 item commonly used for securing carpet to floor 2 round disk as dispensed to motorists (ref. *Swansea*) 3 fiscal obligation to State executed under very complex laws.

summons *n.* 1 belonging to somebody (*summons hat; summons car; has summon lost this.*") 2 a call to appear before a judge or magistrate.

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Time's up

SO WHITHER Gerald Corbett, the bluff, genial finance director at Grand Metropolitan who has been deemed surplus to requirements after the merger with Guinness? No fault of his — the appointment of John McGrath as chief executive of the merged company meant the finance man pretty well had to come from Guinness. Someone had to go, and hence Corbett's new nickname at GrandMet, Captain Oates. He joined from Redland almost three years ago and must have expected a rather longer tenure, but Gerald, 45, will have no problems getting another job — he fancies something entrepreneurial rather than the usual finance director's grind, I gather. His last salary was £451,000 including bonus, and he is on a two-year roller. GrandMet has a reputation for being extremely generous at such times, so sympathy is perhaps limited.

As befits the new, sleaze-free era, the deal went through without a leak, even though it was announced on a Monday and so a natural for the "Friday night drop" to the Sunday press. Yet a hundred or so of lawyers, bankers, brokers and other hangers-on must have known by last weekend. Secrecy was apparently assured because there was no share issue or other cash-raising to arrange beforehand, which speaks volumes about the discretion of the average fund manager or commercial banker.



"Payout will be slow, Guinness always needs time to settle"

● *ONE of the few pleasures of attending annual meetings is always the doggie bag of the firm's products that producers of edibles and drinkables feel the urge to hand out. Biscuit makers can be good for several children's parties, although the brewers are not as generous as they once were, I notice. But news reaches me of a regrettable bit of cheese-paring at last week's Cadbury Schweppes meeting. Investors were handed a box of something called Invitations au Plaisir, some French chocs that do not seem to have troubled the British market. What's more, they were date-stamped to be consumed by end-July 1997, which seems a bit soonish. Old or surplus stock, perhaps?*

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Off the road

SPARE a moment's sympathy for the nation's driving instructors. (With three personal exceptions I will not name, but you know who you are, and especially the one with the suede jacket and advanced diploma in sarcasm).

The Motor Schools' Association says they could lose a fifth of their workload this year, because pupils are too illiterate to take the new written theory exam. David Lepine, general manager of the association, said instructors believe that one in every five learner drivers may not have the basic literacy skills needed:

"Many academic low achievers make the best drivers. The real danger here is that these people may not keep trying until they do pass the test but decide to drive anyway, without a licence." This only confirms the admission of BSM, Britain's biggest motoring school, that its own pupils with learning difficulties were having trouble with the exam.

● *CONTINUING our occasional series of great investment decisions of our time: last week I pointed out that the biggest single investor in BTR and Dalgety, both of whom issued profit warnings, was PDFM. In its relentless search for value investment, PDFM has also alighted on Waverley Mining Finance. Waverley is behind Monktonhall Colliery, closed because of flooding after costing the company £23 million. Its Australian arm is considering suing Bre-X, the scandal-hit owner of that Indonesian "gold" mine. Little wonder Waverley shares have halved in value since January. This was when PDFM, now with 25 per cent, carried out its last round of buying.*

Birt's bash

THE handover of Hong Kong's sovereignty on June 30 is shaping up to be such a massive party that the People's Army might not find much left to drink when they finally arrive. Any number of the great and the good are finding compelling reasons to be there. Latest invitee is John Birt, director-general of the BBC, a guest of the Foreign Office. By coincidence one of his closest lieutenants, Tony Hall, chief executive of BBC News, will also be in South East Asia — but we are assured not Hong Kong — scouting out bits of his new empire there, World Service News. Some curmudgeons at the BBC are wondering why two such key people really have to be absent in the same part of the world at the same time.

MARTIN WALLER


John Birt: hitching a ride to the party in Hong Kong?

هكذا من الاصل

National Express joins forces with Norwegian group

BY OUR CITY STAFF

NATIONAL EXPRESS, the transport group, has launched its expansion into continental Europe by naming Schoyen Group, one of Norway's biggest bus operators, as its partner.

The two companies have set up Concordia Bus, a joint venture that will be 63 per cent owned by National Express, to bid for the stream of privatised contracts that it expects to emerge this summer.

It will now be competing head-to-head with Stagecoach, its United Kingdom rival, which is also targeting the Scandinavian market through Swebus, the Swedish company which it bought last October.

Phil White, the chief executive of National Express, said that the company would not just bid for public transport contracts but would primarily become a vehicle for acquisitions of other bus operators in Scandinavia and Germany.

He said: "The private sector is set to play an increasingly important role throughout Europe. The experience of National Express of operating in the highly competitive, deregulated United Kingdom transport sector combined with Schoyen's local expertise will make Concordia a powerful force."

He added that Concordia will be targeting leading operators which have fleets of more than 500 buses, but cautioned that the first acquisition may not happen until next year.

National Express sees Concordia as a blueprint for European expansion in other sectors such as rail transport. But Mr White said that the cost of such deals would not be inflated as more British transport operators made moves into the European market through strategic alliances. The company already runs 80 per cent of British long-haul routes, and has taken on the largest part of Britain's privatised railway network. Schoyen is a broad-based transport operator which provides about 40 per cent of Oslo's bus services and employs 800 staff.

The City treated the news with caution yesterday, with many analysts reserving judgment until the company proved that it could make an acquisition at the right price.

One said: "They are entering a completely different ball game here and will be in for a shock if they think that European governments are as keen as the British to sell transport at giveaway prices to strangers."

National Express shares, which have been falling from 573p over the past six weeks, eased a further 3½p to 491½p.



Growth-bound: Jim Flavin, chief executive of DCC

DCC confident of growth as profits rise 22%

BY MARTIN BARROW

SHARES in DCC rose to a record high yesterday after the industrial holding company, which is based in Ireland, reported a 22.2 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to Ir£35.27 million, and said that it was looking forward to further growth in the current year.

The company, which has interests spanning the computer, healthcare, food and energy industries, is increasing the total dividend by 16 per cent to Ir8p a share, by way of a Ir4.96p final. The shares rose 14p, to 326½p, on the London Stock Exchange yesterday.

Group turnover increased by 17 per cent at Ir£627.7 million. DCC SerCom, the group's computer services division, lifted sales by 22 per cent to Ir£202 million, while operating profit rose 36 per cent to just above Ir£10 million, helped by a satisfactory performance at Printech Group, its manufacturing services business.

DCC Foods saw profits rise by 17 per cent to Ir£9 million on a 22 per cent increase in sales to Ir£221 million. The company said that the trend towards eating out, healthy eating and snacks between main meals had helped the business.

Earnings at DCC Healthcare rose 70 per cent to Ir£5.13 million. The increase was helped by the first full-year contribution from DMA, the Welsh manufacturer of mobility and rehabilitation products.

But profits at DCC Energy dipped 10 per cent to Ir£7.3 million because of pressure on margins after a steep rise in product costs. Turnover rose 17 per cent to Ir£118 million.

Jim Flavin, the chief executive and deputy chairman of DCC, said: "Each of DCC's divisions is budgeting for growth in the current year and the group's financial strength and cashflows will support their continued acquisition and development activity."

Sales at API shrug off pound's rise

BY ADAM JONES

THE strong pound could not stop API, the specialist packaging and coatings company, from increasing interim pre-tax profits by 44 per cent, to £6.1 million (£4.2 million).

Sales in the six months to March 31 grew to £70 million (£58.2 million), boosted by the acquisition last May of the Learoyd packaging group.

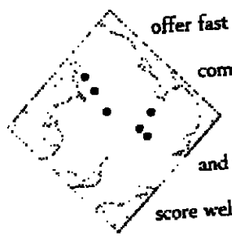
Credit Lyonnais Laing, its broker, expects API to record pre-tax profits of about £15 million for the full year. Mike Smith, chief executive of API, said that its order book is strong and the buoyant pound, which topped £1 million off interim profit, seems to have stabilised.

Operating profit margin rose from 7.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent. The margin would have reached 10 per cent but for the £1.1 million start-up costs at its metallising business, which produces aluminium-coated labels and wrappers for products such as beer bottles and butter. Mr Smith said that the new metallising arm was expected to become profitable by September, about ten months ahead of schedule.

An interim dividend of 4.93p (4.48p) is due on July 4.



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Property group agrees refinancing

LONDON & METROPOLITAN, the troubled property investment and development group, yesterday announced the terms of a financial restructuring agreed with Bank of Scotland, its principal banker. These include a debt-for-equity swap and an increase in working capital to £12 million to enable the implementation of a debt reduction programme under which most of the existing properties and development sites will be sold. Medium-term debts of £15.4 million are being converted into a single ordinary share.

Bank of Scotland's shareholding will fall from 38.2 to 12.2 per cent. The combined shareholdings of directors and senior employees will increase from 3.9 to 16.9 per cent, while an employee share ownership trust will hold a further 13 per cent. The shares were unchanged at 4½p.

First Leisure buoyant

FIRST LEISURE Corporation, the bowling alley to bingo halls group that will be headed by Michael Grade from the summer, said yesterday that sales in the six months to April 30 were 7 per cent ahead of last year's corresponding figure. Each division, with the exception of bingo, achieved solid improvements in [illegible] sales. Bingo sales have declined 25 per cent and the business, after absorbing pre-opening costs and administration charges, has traded at a loss.

Diploma diversion

[illegible] products to metals group, had [illegible] in the six months to March 31 as a [illegible] business wiped out profits generated by new [illegible] of the electronics arm lifted profits by 29 per cent to £2 million, but the stainless steel division plunged into [illegible] overall profits to £10.8 million (£11 million). [illegible] earnings declined to 12.3p (12.7p) a share. The [illegible] dividend, due on July 1, is held at 4.5p.

'Farmhouse' pubs pay

[illegible] COMPANY, the fast-growing chain of [illegible] more than doubled profits after tapping the weekend lunch market. It spent £15 million on its pub "farmhouse" theme and bought 27 new outlets, lifting the total portfolio to 88. Overall, pre-tax profits jumped to £1.6 million (£980,000) for the year to March 31, lifting earnings to 7.7p a share (2.86p). A final dividend of 1.2p, due on June 30, makes a 2p total. The shares rose 10p, to a high of 266½p.

BBA raises £20m

BBA, the UK engineering company, continued the disposal of non-core businesses yesterday with the sale of PC Cox (Newbury) Ltd, a manufacturer of sealant applicators, to a new group, which has been formed by CVC Capital Partners, for £20 million. The price comprises £18 million in cash payable on completion and a loan note in respect of the balance. The proceeds from the sale will be used to reduce borrowings.

Rugby Estates expands

RUGBY ESTATES is spending £8.4 million extending its Covent Garden property holdings by buying a 40,000 sq ft block at the junction of Strand and Bedford Street. Rugby said the deal was its largest acquisition, producing an initial rental yield of 8 per cent but expected to rise to 10 per cent. Rugby's central London holdings are now worth £34 million.

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BRITISH AIRWAYS Express

Bull run continues

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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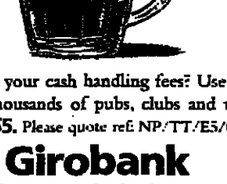
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BRITISH FINDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

Source FT Information

Plate at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex rights. ▲ Ex capital issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex partial distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No sign/Unit Data Comparable to hold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

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...ICE AGENCY

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Up-to-the-minute prices for over 1,800 unit trusts, investment trusts, offshore funds and PEPs. Prices are supplied by the trust managers and are updated daily. Yield is the annual income distributed by the trust as a percentage of the offer price. Trusts marked ‡ are subject to a bid-offer spread. Trusts marked † are ex-dividend. Trusts marked # are subject to periodic charges deducted from capital. Trusts marked @ are subject to an exit charge.

AAA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	788.70	815.70		2.21
General Inc	626.10	675.70		2.21
UK Growth Acc	537.10	565.10		2.37
UK Growth Inc	339.60	361.20		2.37
Higher Inc Acc	340.80	210.80		3.73
Higher Inc Inc	493.50	525.10		3.73
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	227.80	234.10		5.43
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	94.60	99.85		5.43
Nth American	370.90	394.60		
Eurogen	411.90	438.20		0.79
Smaller Cos	184.60	177.20		2.42
Spl Situations	139.90	139.30		4.41
Spl Situations Inc	96.37	97.80		4.41
Global Opps	106.80	115.60		
Balanced Inc	97.52	98.43		2.14
Balanced Acc	97.43	44.06		2.14
Japan Acc	398.50	424.00		0.77

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0845 717 373

Gilts & Fixed Int	136.90	145.30	- 0.10	6.47
High Inc Equity	262.90	217.00†	+ 0.10	4.47
Worldwide Bond	271.10	287.50†	+ 2.80	4.19
American Growth	446.50	477.20	+ 3.90	0.35
Asian Pacific	331.60	354.70	+ 2.20	0.79
Assets & Earnings	338.20	354.00†	+ 0.50	2.69
Euro Capital Acc	218.70	232.70	+ 2.40	0.88
Euro Inc	43.97	46.70†	+ 0.03	7.82
General	299.20	319.30		3.89
Special Opps	77.94	82.92	- 0.95	0.48
Smaller	101.10	108.10	+ 1.60	
International	142.40	151.70	+ 0.50	
Extra Income & Growth	75.62	80.45	+ 0.05	4.18
Global Gilts & Soc	76.12	81.25	+ 0.17	2.48
Latin America	84.95	83.95	+ 0.62	0.43
Capital Reserve	148.80	148.80		4.70

ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0141 275 6500

Nat Wt Growth	102.30	109.40	+ 0.10	2.20
Equity Income	143.90	153.00		3.93
Extra Income	279.40	297.20	- 0.20	6.10
Smaller Cos	110.50	117.50†	+ 0.10	1.31
International	124.40	132.30†	+ 0.70	1.36

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

UK Small Cos	2507.00	2609.00		

AETRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 588

Aetr Inc & Growth	97.93	70.48†	+ 0.47	
Emerging Mkts	94.08	97.27	+ 0.28	0.04
European	108.90	114.90†	+ 0.90	
Extra Income #	93.61	96.63	+ 0.01	5.74
Far East Emg Eqty	127.20	133.50		0.47
Fixed Interest #	38.51	37.78†	+ 0.04	6.75
Fixed Int Tst #	164.90	173.10†		6.50
Japan	124.30	131.10	+ 4.80	
Latin American	77.13	78.09	+ 0.41	0.64
Pacific	81.86	85.90†	+ 0.62	0.20
Property Shares	93.69	97.85	+ 0.02	2.60
UK Emerging Cos	72.91	76.38	+ 0.26	1.23
UK Growth	62.38	64.97†	- 0.12	1.81
Aetr World Port #	96.87	93.53		4.66
Enhanced	94.41	97.78	+ 0.43	2.01
Assured Gilt Inc #	51.02	51.06	+ 0.07	7.26

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 9868

Retail Property #	100.30	105.70		5.32

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Amer. Income	100.66	106.80	+ 0.21	1.89
Income Builder Inc	98.90	94.57	- 0.08	3.70

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

Balanced Trusts:				
Growth & Income	326.10	348.60†	+ 2.80	2.67
Capital	579.20	619.10†	+ 1.80	1.02
Extramet	952.30	1018.00	+ 5.00	2.39
Accumulator	1832.00	1963.00†	+12.00	1.59
Income Trusts:				
Premium Income	72.22	77.10†	- 0.05	2.10
High Income	525.80	561.40	+ 4.30	3.80
Equity Income	297.50	317.70	+ 2.80	3.50
High Yield	315.80	337.30†	+ 2.90	3.56
Capr Generation	35.80	37.80†	+ 0.07	5.78
International Trusts:				
Amer Spec Sits	214.30	240.90	- 0.30	0.64
European Growth	61.30	67.40†	- 0.17	0.06
International	205.00	219.00†	- 0.90	0.09
Japan	109.60	102.40	+ 5.10	
Pacific	206.50	434.50	+ 2.20	
Spec of America	653.30	697.70	+ 0.50	0.71
World Asset Val	59.81	63.90†	- 0.46	0.62
Specialist Trusts:				
Asset Value	738.30	790.30	+ 4.30	1.73
Cons & Gilt	54.64	58.63†	+ 0.05	3.61
Smaller Cos	214.30	229.00	+ 0.30	1.00
Spec Opportunities	167.30	177.70	+ 0.30	0.71
Recovery	187.30	200.20†	+ 1.20	1.41
Mid Man & Cty	159.10	170.00†	+ 2.20	0.18
Gross Earnings	486.60	521.20†	+ 3.10	0.93
Technology	236.70	253.00†	+ 0.20	
Uk Special Sits	653.30	698.20	+ 0.20	1.53

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 525 911

Certified Gilt Pens	127.30	132.20		
Fidelity Pacet Pens	74.66	77.79		

For IFA Household see Thornhill

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4742

America	380.70	405.60	- 2.70	
Bond	127.70	130.10†	- 0.20	6.39
Far East Sm Cos	117.90	125.40	- 0.20	1.79
Core & Gen #	58.01	61.71		5.35
Europe	230.10	350.30	- 2.20	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	129.00	137.20	+ 0.50	0.37
Income Gwth	396.90	422.20†	- 1.20	4.49
Japan	207.40	220.40†	+11.80	
Latin American	106.90	111.70	+ 0.70	0.51
Pacific	123.20	129.90	+ 0.80	0.50
UK Smlr Cos	140.55	64.41	- 0.06	1.24
Japan Fd	581.10	598.60	+ 17.10	
Utrsg Fd	253.90	257.20†	- 1.00	2.59

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0121 456 8573

B & E Shares	418.70	434.40		0.61
Capital Gwth	145.20	153.60		3.72
Stlgde Opps	241.10	255.00		0.85

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 542 4000

Balanced Trusts:				
Gwth & Inc Inc	481.00	511.70†	- 0.50	3.01
European Bd Inc	39.62	42.40	+ 0.20	5.64
Exempt	94.47	100.50†	- 0.30	2.45
500	509.90	560.60		2.65
General	353.90	391.50†	- 1.40	2.09
Managed	342.70	364.80		2.57
Income	265.80	277.70	- 0.10	2.03
Income Trusts:				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.50†		5.96
Extra Income #	123.50	131.40	+ 0.60	5.96
Extra Income Inc #	94.88	100.90	+ 0.30	5.96
Gilt & Fixed Int	175.30	186.40	+ 0.40	6.47
High Income	178.70	190.10	+ 0.90	6.47
Property Shares	94.88	97.68		2.60
Recovery	94.88	97.68		2.60
Specialist Trusts: - Overseas				
Capital	94.88	97.68		2.60
Far East Gen Acc	94.88	97.68		2.60
Far East Inc	94.88	97.68		2.60
Global Gen Acc	94.88	97.68		2.60
Global Inc	94.88	97.68		2.60
High Income	94.88	97.68		2.60

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1904

Emerging Growth				
Emerging Income				
Europe				
Far East				
Global				
Global Bond				
Global Emerging Mkts				
Global Growth				
Global Income				
Japan Growth				
North American				
Pacific Growth				
UK Growth				
UK Income				

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 558 0200

Blackstone Fd				

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0141 333 9700

Balanced				
Equity Income				
Fixed Interest				
Global Growth				
Income				
Managed				
Pacific Basin				
Recovery				
Special Situations				
UK Growth				

BUTE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0131 225 4724

Bute Fd				

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 832 7439 Enq 0161 832 7439 Dlg 0161 831 7455

Balanced				
Capital Growth				
Capital Income				
Commodity				
Conservative Growth #				
Equity				
Extra Income & Growth #				
Fixed Interest				
Global Growth				
Global Income				
Growth & Income				
High Income				
Income & Growth				
Managed				
Money				
Recovery				
Special Situations				
Technology				

CAPEL UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 831 0250

Europe				
Income				
UK Growth				
UK Income				

CAZENOVE UNIT TST MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 282 836

Cap & Inc Inc				
Capital Growth				
Dist Inc				
Income Inc				
Income Trusts: - UK				
Cash Inc				
Cash Acc				
Extra Income #				
Fixed Int Inc				
Income Builder #				
Int Growth				
Income Trusts: - Overseas				
Far East				
Far East Gen Acc				
Far East Inc				
Global Gen Acc				
Global Inc				
High Income				

CHARTWELL INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD
0171 491 8000

Chartwell Fd				

CHELVERTON UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 828 0024

Chelverton Fd				

CHURCH HOUSE TST MGMT LTD
0171 236 5681

Church House Fd				

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 72 7272

American Growth	84.79	90.20	+ 0.53	0.07
Dragon Growth	72.45	77.48	+ 0.24	0.33
Equity High Inc	100.09	106.06	- 0.14	3.51
Abs Accum	151.13	159.92	- 0.38	3.69
Extra Income Inc	27.79	29.29†	+ 0.05	6.59
Extra Income Acc	31.47	33.13	+ 0.07	6.59
European Growth	72.95	77.26	+ 0.56	0.28
Evergreen	30.68	34.93	+ 0.26	
General Equity	121.38	128.01	+ 0.09	2.47
Japan Growth	42.20	44.89	+ 1.13	
Pedigree Gwth	72.21	76.41	+ 0.09	1.96
Ped Sm Cos Inc	41.21	43.61†	+ 0.07	1.19
Ped Sm Cos Acc	44.14	46.71	+ 0.08	1.19
Retirement Inc #	30.96	32.94	+ 0.04	5.46
Special Sits	92.03	96.95	+ 0.01	2.58
Uk & Overseas	65.37	70.23	+ 0.51	0.63

COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD
01634 898 000

Balanced	76.85	80.05	- 0.18	3.88
Capital	94.25	97.10	+ 0.07	2.27
High Income	54.53	56.99†	+ 0.13	6.54
Top 50	65.83	68.67	+ 0.33	2.34

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 686 9818

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds:				
Equity Inc	213.89	222.83†	+ 0.63	4.12
Long Gilt	96.72	98.68†	- 0.26	9.88
Wealth Inc Plus	53.98	56.26†	+ 0.05	5.97
Preference Shrs	51.22	53.36†	+ 0.20	7.31
Balanced Funds:				
High Yield	156.76	162.27†	+ 0.73	5.26
Managed Fund	82.52	85.97†	+ 0.51	2.58
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.19	97.50†	- 0.11	1.65
Abs Accum	86.01	89.77†	- 0.14	1.85
UK & General	111.01	115.65†	- 0.01	2.61
Abs Accum	142.17	153.37†	+ 1.45	2.61
UK Growth	223.05	232.57†	+ 1.22	1.21
International Growth Funds:				
Europe Growth	245.85	256.23†	+ 4.47	0.57
Fs European Gwth	134.18	139.78†	+ 2.29	0.02
Global Bond	74.58	77.61†	+ 0.61	6.39
Japan Growth	105.64	110.05†	+ 3.33	
North Amer Gwth	272.71	284.04†	+ 1.74	
Oriental Growth	95.37	99.34†	+ 0.59	0.26
Worldwide Growth	79.49	82.81†	+ 0.91	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.91	91.91†	+ 0.04	5.53
Homemaker Fund	99.57	105.94	+ 0.73	2.04
Qualifier Fund	182.01	182.01	- 0.49	1.97

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5995

Consistent Ut	38.83	41.50		3.81

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 398

Growth	194.90	207.30†	+ 0.30	1.64
Income	79.90	84.99	+ 0.15	4.19
Eurogrowth	85.29	90.73	+ 0.32	0.34
Recovery	185.10	195.90†	+ 0.48	2.69

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9484

Equity Dist	1084.00	1100.90		3.15

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 689 370

Fellowship Fd	117.50	124.90†	- 0.10	1.09
Income #	308.20	327.80†	+ 0.30	4.19
Abs Accum #	698.70	691.70	+ 0.90	4.19
Smaller Cos	238.60	253.80†	+ 0.30	0.94
Abs Accum	297.30	316.20	+ 0.30	0.94
Gth Portfolio	109.70	116.60	+ 0.30	1.15
High Inc Port #	90.87	96.67	+ 0.11	4.32

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
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Global Sm Cos	1703.40	1735.90		
UK Small Cos	2310.70	2405.60		2.65

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Disc Inc	340.90	349.40		3.14

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
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Ut Balanced Inc	286.40	298.90	+ 0.30	1.55
Ut High Inc Inc	201.70	214.50†	+ 0.70	3.32
Abs Accum	281.20	299.10†	+ 1.00	3.32
Ut Pref & Fixed Int	92.80	96.65	- 0.01	5.56
Envirowatch Opps	115.90	123.10†	+ 0.30	0.81
Ut Smlr Cos #	76.35	81.86	+ 0.29	0.82
Euro Income Inc	92.67	96.03	+ 0.16	6.57

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Convertibles #	23.97	26.47	+ 0.01	5.50
Eurogrowth	115.90	122.90	+ 0.30	2.03
Equity Income #	157.30	167.10	+ 0.10	3.63
European	71.21	75.40	+ 0.76	
Financial	66.84	71.02	+ 0.32	1.41
Growth & Inc #	318.90	338.60	+ 0.60	2.58
High Dist #	195.50	207.70†	+ 0.20	4.69
International	454.60	485.30	+ 3.10	0.21
Int Fd Inc	115.70	121.00†	+ 0.20	2.20
Latin American	37.92	40.36	+ 0.29	
Pacific	85.07	90.39	+ 0.27	
Pref High Inc	93.69	99.52†	+ 0.01	7.17
Tokyo	186.70	208.00	+ 5.70	
UK Smaller Cos	257.80	273.90†	+ 0.20	1.10
Dunedin Unit Trusts:				
Inc South Fd	209.60	346.70†	+ 6.00	
Nth Amer	475.40	503.90	+ 3.70	0.56
Ut Inc & Gth	241.50	900.40†	+ 1.00	2.47

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0282

Ely Place UT	128.70	137.00†	- 1.35	1.64
Growth Acc	231.32	246.24†	- 11.10	0.61
Income	516.62	550.42†	- 0.63	6.03

ENCLARANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7261

Enclarance Fd	333.60	354.50†		0.67

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Balanced				
Emerging Markets				
European				
Far East				
Global Bond				
Global Growth				
Income				
Japan				
North American				
Pacific Growth				
Special Situations				
UK Equity				
UK Growth				
UK Income				

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Exeter Gilt Yield				
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Growth Fund				
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Managed Fund				
Pacific Basin				
Special Situations				
UK Opportunities				
UK Smaller Cos				
World Fund				

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First Active Fd				

FSC UNIT MANAGERS LTD
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Income				
UK Growth				
UK Income				

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UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	66.14	70.86	+ 0.25	2.03
Financial Inc Inc #	131.95	141.13†	- 0.63	3.41
Abs Accum #	330.73	343.03†	- 1.51	3.41
UK Index	205.17	209.20	+ 0.55	3.15
UK Smaller Cos	234.91	251.24	+ 2.45	0.38
International Funds:				
Extra Yield	75.65	76.58†	- 0.08	6.65
High Income	38.49	41.10†	- 0.02	4.43
UK Growth & Inc	178.99	197.46	+ 0.24	2.69
Global Bond	29.81	29.81†	+ 0.14	4.55
International Funds:				
Emerging Markets	51.45	55.02†	- 0.06	
Global Managed	156.15	164.89†	+ 1.31	1.19
Gold & Int Res	110.51	116.18	- 0.96	
Global Utilities	163.47	174.36	- 0.29	0.97
Overseas Funds:				
American	216.84	229.87	- 1.38	0.55
European	157.56	167.03	- 0.69	0.47
Euro Tel Opps	242.70	257.72	- 0.26	
Asia Emerging	170.05	181.85	- 1.01	
Hong Kong	208.21	222.32	+ 8.76	0.96
Japan	201.35	213.31	+ 6.24	
Pacific Growth	254.54	242.47	- 0.28	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds:				
Managed Equity	263.05	263.05†	- 0.52	1.73
Long Term Bal	202.02	202.02†	- 0.65	2.59
Med Term Bal	257.31	257.31†	+ 11.11	3.67
Pn Equity	340.12	340.12†	- 0.08	2.36
UK Emerging Cos	191.01	191.01†	- 0.21	1.96
American	373.42	373.42†	- 3.38	0.48
Japan	118.91	118.91†	- 2.93	
European	409.01	409.01†	+ 1.64	0.73
Index Linked Gilt	194.35	194.35†	+ 0.89	2.64
Fixed Interest	192.10	192.10†	+ 0.89	6.66
Amer Emergnc	378.61	378.61†	- 2.31	
Pacific	237.80	237.80†	- 0.49	0.83
Emerging Mkts	132.61	132.61†	- 0.43	0.03
Index Tract Japan	122.27	122.27†	+ 4.39	0.26
Ut Pacific Ren	206.73	206.73†	+ 0.83	1.17
Ut Cont Europe	217.88	217.88†	+ 1.38	1.27
Index Trac USA	222.45	222.45†	+ 1.51	1.36
Gartmore Personal Pensions Funds				
Managed Equity	129.68	137.86	- 1.61	
Med Term Bal	116.57	124.03	- 1.30	
Cash Fund	150.08	150.08†	+ 0.06	5.46
Long Term Bal	136.35	145.05	+ 0.49	
UK Equity	157.98	168.06	+ 0.49	
UK Emerging Cos	90.01	95.75	+ 0.14	
American	114.18	120.30	+ 0.61	
Japan	50.98	54.23	+ 0.28	
European	169.41	180.21	+ 0.72	
Fixed Interest	39.47	105.81	+ 0.49	
Index Linked Gilt	86.69	92.21	+ 0.51	
Deposit	90.45	96.22	+ 0.04	
Broker Unit Trusts:				
BWM Ltd	165.01	173.86	- 0.96	0.49
Brown Gth Pnd Inc	73.21	77.15	+ 0.05	0.63
-do- Inc Pnd Inc	69.41	73.14†	+ 0.51	4.25
-do- Wrldw Port	61.56	64.87	+ 0.43	0.10

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GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9090

Stlg & Intl Inc	113.78	119.81		
-do- Accum	210.62	221.70		
European Inc	97.12	102.23		
Arbitrage Inc	153.67	161.76		
N America Inc	127.96	134.69		
Far East Inc	51.71	54.44		
-do- Accum	51.71	54.44		
UK Equity Inc	111.78	117.66		

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Protected Funds:				
UK Safeguard	96.44	101.52		
Do Extra to Jun 29	97.17	102.34		
UK Equity Safeguard	98.17	103.34		
Do Extra to Jun 29	98.17	103.34		
Global	95.47	100.50		
UK Growth Funds:				
UK Equity Inc	98.44	103.62		
UK Equity Acc	98.44	103.62		
UK Smaller Cos	98.44	103.62		
Recovery Inc	98.44	103.62		
Recovery Acc	98.44	103.62		
Income Funds:				
Fixed Int Inc	98.44	103.62		
Fixed Int Acc	98.44	103.62		
Income Inc	98.44	103.62		
Income Acc	98.44	103.62		
International Funds:				
Asian Growth	98.44	103.62		
Emerging Markets	98.44	103.62		
European Inc	98.44	103.62		
European Acc	98.44	103.62		
Global Inc	98.44	103.62		
Global Acc	98.44	103.62		
Japanese Inc	98.44	103.62		
Japanese Acc	98.44	103.62		
Pacific Basin Inc	98.44	103.62		
Pacific Basin Acc	98.44	103.62		

GRANVILLE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 628 1181

Granville Fd				

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Gilt & Fixed Interest				
Growth Fund				
Income Fund				
International				
Recovery				

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Dealing: 0171 220 5052

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Balanced Acc				
Growth				
Income Inc				
Income Acc				
Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Extra Income				
Financial				
Gilt & Fixed Int Inc				
Gilt & Fixed Int Acc				
High Income				
Japan				
North American				
Pacific				
Recovery				
Special Situations				
UK Growth				
UK Smaller Cos				
UK Trust				
Worldwide				

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Income Inc				
Income Acc				
Growth				
Recovery				

HARGREAVES LANSDOWN ASSET MGMT LTD
Enquiries: 0117 900 9000 Dealing: 0345 [illegible]

Income Fd				

HENDERSON INVESTORS
Enquiries: 0845 [illegible] Dealing: 0845 [illegible]

Income				
Growth				
Recovery				
Special Situations				
Global Growth				
Global Income				
Asian Growth				
Asian Income				
European Growth				
European Income				
North American				
Pacific Basin				
Japan				
Japan Smaller Cos				
Emerging Markets				
Global Bond				
Sterling Bond				
Sterling Fixed Int				
Sterling Corporate				
Sterling Extra Income				
Sterling Index Linked				
Sterling Long Dated				
Sterling Managed				
Sterling Money				
Sterling Recovery				
Sterling Special Situations				

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FP American	70.59	75.02	- 0.06	0.05
FP Am Smlr Cos	199.70	213.00†	+ 2.10	
FP Asset Growth	284.30	303.50	- 0.10	
FP Asset Income	164.20	491.90†	+ 0.30	
FP Property Dist	510.70	544.70†	- 0.20	2.16
FP Accum	511.52	512.28	- 1.00	2.16
FP Euro Gth	338.70	362.30	+ 4.10	
-do- Accum	372.60	397.40	+ 4.50	
FP Inc Bond	56.63	59.32	+ 0.04	4.12
FP Intl Gth Dist	41.63	44.40	+ 0.51	
-do- Accum	61.14	65.21	+ 0.75	
FP Pac Basin Acc	224.60	239.50	- 3.80	
FP Income #	66.60	70.43	+ 0.16	4.67
-do- Accum #	234.70	250.32	+ 0.52	4.67
FP Jap Smlr Cos	236.30	253.00	+ 3.00	
FP Monthly Dist #	81.52	86.95†	+ 0.10	5.18
FP Stg Deposit	100.50	100.50†	+ 0.10	5.27
FP Tokyo	74.09	79.05	+ 3.12	
FP Uk Focus	47.86	51.07†	+ 0.05	1.64
FP Uk Growth	206.80	241.90		1.88
-do- Accum	451.30	482.00		
FP Uk Income	204.70	218.40		4.01
Sterling Inc Dist	94.70	101.00†	+ 0.20	5.29
Sterling Inc Acc	94.70	101.00†	+ 0.20	5.29

LAW

● JAILED ABROAD 39
● GLOBAL CRIMES 39

Open letters to the new powers-that-be from a QC, **Martin Bowley**; a solicitor, **James Burnett-Hitchcock**, right; and a retired judge, bottom

Now it's time for answers

Dear Lord Chancellor

We now have a new Lord Chancellor. What sort — and size — of Bar will survive five or perhaps ten years of a Labour Government? The Bar in independent practice totals just over 9,000. At the present rate it could number 11,000 by the year 2000. But will it? The external pressures are not just political. Lord Woolf's reforms, with their emphasis on case management, written submissions, limited oral argument and court-appointed experts, should lead to shorter trials, more economic litigation and, presumably, fewer and less well-paid lawyers.

Pressures on legal aid budgets exist in all common law jurisdictions. So there is a real possibility that block legal aid contracts and legal aid franchising will be extended to the Bar. The decision of the senior judges to allow Crown prosecutors to appear in pre-trial reviews and as juniors with counsel must affect the criminal bar. And plans for standard legal aid fees in civil and family cases will have a devastating impact on numbers in those areas.

We must, therefore, all have questions for Lord Irvine. Here are just ten of mine:

- Is there a case for further extension of rights of audience for solicitors?
- Do you believe the Bar should amend its rules to allow for direct lay access and partnerships?
- If there is to be no extra public money, how will you reallocate existing funds to provide legal aid for tribunals?
- How soon will you establish your appointments commission, how will its members be selected and will it cover the system for selection of QCs?
- Will you ask officials to establish and publish the cost to the public purse of running the present silks system?
- Would you consider urgently creating a system of graduated fees for civil and family legal aid work?
- What proposals have you for financing young entrants to the profession so it does not revert to its one-time Wasp public-school, Oxbridge profile?
- Are you satisfied with existing procedures for converting Law Commission proposals into legislation?
- Do you favour moves towards multi-disciplinary partnerships?
- What are your law reform priorities?

This country is already going down the American road and becoming more litigious. New legislation is rarely bad for lawyers' incomes. More people want to train for the Bar despite the problems of obtainirig pupillages and tenancies. But it seems likely that the Bar's size will contract. The Inns of Court can survive only with rent structures at the very top of the property market. What will be the effect if they can no longer let all their space?

What will be the impact on the Bar Council if its subscription base is reduced and the Inns can no longer afford the present level of subvention? At least one Inn is conducting a year-long assessment of its future role and has commissioned a series of papers from benchers with different perspectives, analysing that Inn's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats. At the same time, the Bar Council has dispensed with its planning committee.

Surely any modern profession must have in place machinery for long-term strategic thinking. In July 2000 the American Bar Association will hold its annual meeting in London. Its last visit, 12 years ago, was a splendid occasion, with a re-dedication ceremony at Runnymede, sessions at the Albert and Westminster Halls, dinners and garden parties in the Inns of Court. The profession here gave every impression of being thriving, confident and expanding. In truth, it was riven with splits over rights of audience, low fee levels for legal aid and prosecution work had reduced morale at the Criminal Bar to crisis point, the Bar Council was out of touch with barristers and a reformist group was poised to sweep the board at the annual elections.

We owe it to ourselves, the public, and our future to have some idea of what the Bar will be like in 2000, and the years beyond. There are plenty of questions. But who is working on the answers?

● *The author is a former Treasurer of the Bar Council.*



Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, the new Lord Chancellor

The Woolf is at your door

Dear Lord Chancellor

Congratulations on your appointment and good luck — you will need it. Your party is after a Nobel Prize for law and order. It expects the legal aid budget to shrink by magic while the consumer lobby clamours to assert its rights in the courts and expects cost and delay to vanish overnight.

So, what to do about Lord Woolf's "Access to Justice" reforms? Should you press ahead — and with all or part of them? Alas, the obvious questions are a red herring. Implementation has begun and in a way likely to create difficulties at best; disaster at worst.

What made Lord Woolf's report different from its forerunners was consultation. No ivory tower pronouncement, but the product of thorough discussion between Lord Woolf's team and those in civil justice who thought they owned the proposals — and now want them implemented. But how? Lord Woolf set some clear pointers: civil justice should *not* be a series of discrete boxes — Lord Chancellor's Department (LCD), judiciary, practitioners and consumers (each telling the other what to do, but not listening) — but a partnership, serving society at an acceptable price and pace. The partners, he said, should articulate their needs through a civil justice council headed by the Vice-Chancellor. Information technology is crucial: to manage work volume and conduct of individual cases.

Above all, we need a continuation of Lord Woolf's consultative process — the only way to achieve the crucial change in culture.

This is what most judges, lawyers and consumers want. The report came out in July 1996. Within two months, a seven-year contract was let by your department to EDS, a multinational IT contractor, to computerise the entire court system. Not a word of discussion, it seems, with other players. But anyone will tell you that he who owns the IT strategy is master of the game.

The proposal for a Civil Justice Council was ignored — until pressure from the profession compelled your department to recant. But the prime task of the council should have been to monitor IT strategy from day one.

Lord Woolf envisaged a "new landscape" in litigation. Re-replacing 6,200 pages of High Court and County Court rules is a mammoth task. Who is doing it? Not the successful working parties set up by Lord Woolf. Not the masters and district judges, but a parliamentary draftsperson instructed by your department. Incomplete draft rules (no protocols or practice guides) came out last July — comments by November. Target date for implementation is October next year.

And training? The Judicial Studies Board (JSB) has started training sessions in case management — but for judges alone. How ironic it would be to see the project sunk not by cost but by entrenched ways and your department's determination to preserve power at all cost.

Many of us want Woolf to happen and it could yet if, for instance, you: reinstate the "Woolf working parties" and have the people drafting your rules consult them; review the EDS contract and make your department consult *fully* with the Civil Justice Council, which would control IT strategy; tell the JSB to work with the Law Society (much better able to mount a training programme) in evolving training for judges and practitioners — *when the new rules and IT are ready.*

Who will run civil justice — a partnership of all led by yourself and the Vice-Chancellor, or the departmental mandarins? If the latter, Woolf won't work.

● *The author is senior litigation partner at Cameron McKenna.*

How judges view the Home Office's role: **Sir Frederick Lawton** pens an open letter to Jack Straw, the new Home Secretary

We must start working together

Dear Home Secretary

The new Home Secretary has an urgent repair job to do. He should, as soon as he can, establish a good relationship with the judges. He and they must work together in harmony if there is to be an effective penal policy to tackle the acute crime situation. He must trust them; and they must stop regarding him as likely to interfere with their independence and discretion in sentencing. The former tradition that judges should not publicly criticise penal policy save through the Lord Chief Justice, speaking in House of Lords debates, should be observed.



Straw: He must trust the judges

Relations between the Supreme Court judges and the Home Office began to turn sour with the Criminal Justice Act 1961. By its section 3, judges lost much of their discretion in the sentencing of young offenders aged 15 to 21. Unless minded to pass a custodial sentence of less than six months or of three or more years, they had to impose Borstal training, in practice a loss of liberty of between six and nine months. Within days of this provision taking effect, injustices began to appear. The judges protested at this restriction on their sentencing powers. One Home Secretary after another ignored their protests. Injustices continued until Borstal training was abolished in 1982.

Since then, new forms of interference with judicial discretion over sentencing have been introduced — the most controversial being the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997, which brought in mandatory sentences for some offenders. In the Bill's original form, Michael Howard, QC, the then Home Secretary, seemed to be relieving the judges of their constitutional duty to do justice in mercy, which rests upon them as the Queen's delegates.

Home Secretaries should accept that judges know more about sentencing than do they and their advisers. Judges will know what the offender before them did and the circumstances of the offence. Those who appear in court form part of a penal spectrum. At one end they may be wicked villains for whom the harshest punishment is appropriate; at the other, mentally disturbed or of low intelligence, needing treatment or help. Putting offenders into statutory categories makes the doing of justice unnecessarily difficult.

Home Secretaries can learn much from mistakes made in the past. In the second half of the 18th century, Parliament, no doubt encouraged by the Home Secretaries of the time, thought mandatory capital sentences deterred offenders. They did not. In the 1820s there was established the parliamentary convention that penal statutes should enact the appropriate sentence for the most grave form of the offences, leaving judges to decide on the facts of the cases before them what the sentences should be. The recent statute providing for mandatory sentences is a clear breach of this convention. The new Home Secretary should observe it.

Many members of the public, who have no detailed knowledge of the problems which judges and magistrates have to solve, believe criminals can be deterred by harsh sentences. They seldom are. Severity was tried with the Prisons Act 1865, which brought in hard labour in the form of stone-breaking in the quarries on Dartmoor and at Portland. By the end of the century the public came to appreciate that these punishments were unacceptable in a modern democracy. They were abolished by the Prisons Act 1898.

During this century Home Secretaries seem to have been convinced that imprisoning persistent offenders for years served the public interest. The new Home Secretary has made statements showing that he shares this opinion. He should consider the results of the penal policies on persistent offenders which his predecessors introduced. The Prevention of Crimes Act 1908 created the offence of being an habitual criminal, attracting a sentence of not less than five years or more than 14 following any previous sentence of five years or more.

This Act made no contribution to crime prevention because juries refused to convict. In 1956, 1,384 offenders could have been sentenced to preventive detention but only 178 were. In 1961 this kind of sentence was abolished.

One of the reasons why penal policy has failed in some aspects since 1986 is that Home Secretaries have not consulted judges, magistrates and lawyers beforehand. There is a way of doing so, through the Criminal Law Revision Committee set up by Rab Butler in 1959 to advise the Government on changes in the criminal law. Its membership embraced judges of all ranks, magistrates, and lawyers both practising and academic.

It met monthly until the autumn of 1986. It has never met since. It produced 18 reports. The Home Office accepted all its specific recommendations.

The provisions in the Criminal Law Act 1991, dropped after six months, would never have been included had the committee been consulted beforehand. The same is true of the controversial provision in the Crime (Sentences) Bill (now Act) which removed nearly all judicial discretion for specified offences.

Perhaps the committee should be reconvened.

● *Sir Frederick Lawton, a retired Lord Justice of Appeal, chaired the Criminal Law Revision Committee from 1977 to 1986.*

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Directory inquiries

OUTS

THE opinion polls may have been right about the election result, but can they say who publishes the best legal directory? A battle royal is raging between Legalease, publishers of *The Legal 500*, and Chambers & Partners Publishing, which produces its own directory of the UK legal profession. To quote a recent letter by Michael Chambers to several law firms: "Our direct competitors, *The Legal 500*, have been writing to the profession asserting that their directory is the market leader. They refer to a Gallup Poll conducted three years ago . . . Naturally, we doubt this assertion."

He goes on to claim that the results of a new poll by NOP, commissioned by Chambers & Partners, shows (surprise, surprise) that the "clear market leader among directories is the Chambers Directory". Unfortunately there will be no election to resolve this debate, so it may run and run.

Screen test

JUDGE Butler, QC, whose colourful judicial career ended last week when he retired as number one judge at Southwark Crown Court, will not be out of the public eye for long. Next month he presides in a BBC2 television programme, *Trial by Jury*, a staged murder trial using real lawyers, members of the public as the jury, and actors as defendants and witnesses.

● *Does anyone want to buy a secondhand legal publishing empire? Since the departure of Steve Brill, famous in America as the founder of* American Lawyer *magazine and* Court TV, *Time Warner has put the mag up for sale. It is seeking a buyer for the whole* American Lawyer *division, which includes another ten magazines and a related on-line service.* Court TV, *however, is not included.*

All welcome

THE Lord Chancellor plays a key role in the state opening of Parliament tomorrow, presenting the Queen with her speech and then having to negotiate the steps down from the throne backwards — without, of course, falling over. Then, tradition has it that he hosts a reception at his official residence overlooking the Thames. Until now, this has always been restricted to the topmost judges: law lords, the Lord Chief Justice and so on, who rub shoulders with former prime ministers and other government peers. But this year, Lord Irvine is said to be breaking with tradition by including those at the coalface of the law. He is rumoured to be inviting circuit judges, district judges and magistrates.

● *Two leading media law firms have announced they are joining forces: Crockers and Oswald Hickson Collier. The new firm, to practise as Crockers, Oswald Hickson, brings together a number of defamation heavyweights including Rupert Grey, Paul Davies and Richard Shillito. The new firm is on the lookout to expand its intellectual property team.*

STEUART & FRANCIS



March 31, the group had £12 billion under management.

ber 31. The shares closed up 7½p to 75p.

Titmuss Sainer Dechert

and

Dechert Price & Rhoads

SENIOR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT/FSA LAWYER

4+ Years' pqe

If you are not the next partner in this new and expanding department, this recruitment will have failed.

Dechert Price & Rhoads is one of the premier U.S. advisers to investment managers and other financial services providers. With the arrival of Peter Astleford as a partner in both Titmuss Sainer Dechert and Dechert Price & Rhoads, we now have a significant UK presence in the field. Such a combination makes us the first major one stop shop in financial services on both sides of the Atlantic.

This is a challenging, highly rewarding and exciting opportunity to join the unique union of Titmuss Sainer Dechert and Dechert Price & Rhoads. You will be part of a fully integrated international practice with a substantial presence in the global investment management sector. There is a first class international client base and overseas travel and/or secondment are on offer.

The firm would also be interested in talking to financial services lawyers at other levels with a view to them joining this new department.

QUARRY DOUGALL

If you want to find out more, please contact **Greg Abrahams** *or* **Alison Jacobs** *in complete confidence on* **0171 405 6062** *(0171 731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at* **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, *37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.*

DEBT CAPITAL MARKETS

PARTNERSHIP - NOW!

The boom in international securities work is set to continue and the ability to combine UK and US legal advice is recognised as a major advantage.

This firm has huge international reach and a fully integrated, long established, team of UK and US partners and assistants. Across Europe and Asia it has advised issuers and underwriters on over 70 international offerings.

A crucial role remains open for a debt capital markets lawyer who will be unfazed by working on cutting edge deals. Based in the UK, much of your work will be international.

A UK lawyer of six or more years qualfication, you will enjoy a fast track to, if not immediate, partnership and the potential for exceptional rewards in a harmonious merit based structure.

The firm is already a major player in this field and is uniquely positioned to make further inroads.

To find out more on a strictly confidential basis, please contact **Sally Horrox** *or* **Andrew Caulfield** *at* **ZMB** *on* **0171-377 0510** *(0181-995 3396 evenings/weekends). Alternatively write to us at* ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail sally@zmb.co.uk

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ZMB

CHAMBERS

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT 23 LONG LANE LONDON EC1A 9HL TEL: 0171-606 8844 (FAX: 0171-600 1793)

Consultancy Work

Lawyers moving from private practice into industry tend to join a corporate legal department where they continue to practise law but in an environment that allows greater engagement. There are some, however, who prefer to jump a bit further. They look for jobs in commerce where their legal background is relevant but where the practice of law is either lessened or not required at all.

As the economy moves into a higher gear, the variety of opportunities for lawyers increases. We have recently registered an influx of legal vacancies with consultancy organisations where the main skills the employer looks for are commercial skills and a general ability to sell. Some of these positions are with firms of accountants, or their consultancy arms; others with a range of smaller consultancies where the lawyer would join at a senior level. Depth of experience is usually less important than an ability to handle clients effectively. Specific legal skills vary from tax to employment or intellectual property law.

Salaries are usually high, and a commission element often takes them well over the market average. Newly qualifieds will start at around £30,000 a year.

These positions appeal to lawyers who derive more pleasure from creative deal-making and interacting with clients than they do from black letter law.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY
Our legal directory is available from Bibios, (01403 - 710 971)

INDUSTRY *Sonya Rayner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Alicen Shepherd*

Engineering Lawyer: Midlands
Commercial lawyer with at least 5 years' experience for key operating division of major group. Must have sound commercial acumen and enjoy working closely with management. Experience of electrical and mechanical engineering contracts essential.

Corporate/Treasury: London
Opportunity for solr 2-4 years' pqe to join international conglomerate. Role will involve both corp and treasury work although expce of capital markets is not required.

Landlord & Tenant: London
Small department seeks solr/barr 3-5 years' pqe to help manage company's property portfolio in particular acting for tenants and handling acquisitions/disposals.

Hi-tech: Berkshire
Lawyer min 3 yrs' pqe sought to join hi-tech/telecomms company for broad contracts/IP role. Opportunity for travel and top package for right candidate.

Legal & Business Affairs Exec: Geneva
Lawyer with 2-3 years' pqe to join well-known international media organisation and to assist with co-production agreements, sports rights acquisition agreements, technical and telecommunications contracts. Must be reasonably fluent in French.

Contracts Lawyer: West London
UK subsidiary of international company seeks junior lawyer 0-3 years' pqe for general commercial role. Experience of dealing with local authorities helpful.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: *David Woolfson, Simon Anderson* SOUTH: *Helen Mills, Noel Murray* NORTH: *Suki Bahra, Paul Thomas*

Partnership Positions
We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Company/Commercial: Hong Kong
Leading offshore practice seeks solicitor with at least 2 years' pqe and previous expce working in Hong Kong for broad range of corporate and commercial work.

Negligence/Fraud Partner: WC1
Long established medium-sized firm seeks professional negligence partner with part following to handle a high quality caseload on behalf of building society clients.

Company/Commercial: City
Major US practice offers 3-4 year qual solr broad cross-frontier transactional work and general commercial work including employment and IT. To £60,000.

Commercial Litigation: City
Major City firm seeks commercial litigation assistant with 6-18 months' experience and outstanding academics to join their international litigation team.

Banking: West End
Unusual opportunity for banking solicitor to work in the West End. 2-5 year qualified solicitor sought for loan agreements, secured lending and MBO finance.

Energy Litigation: City
Leading energy department in large City firm seeks a 2-4 year qualified litigation/arbitration assistant to join a lively and informal team offering superb quality work.

Commercial Litigation: WC1
High profile media firm seeks 1-3 year qualified assistant with broad trial experience and good client skills to handle a wide range of commercial litigation.

Company/Commercial: London/Surrey
Company/commercial solicitor c. 2 years' pqe sought by first rate practice. Opportunity to work in both offices acting for national/international clients.

Corporate Finance: Leeds
1-4 year qualified solicitor sought to handle a range of quality corporate work for major clients. Above market rate salary will be offered.

BAKER & McKENZIE

GLOBAL Vision

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Sun, sea, the 2000 Olympics, some of the world's finest wines - few cities can match the spectacular quality of life on offer in Sydney.

And few firms can match the depth of experience offered by the recognised specialists acting for our Sydney office in its core practice areas of Corporate & Securities, and IT & Telecommunications. Our specific requirements are set out below.

CORPORATE & SECURITIES **1-3 YEARS' PQE**

Broad range of transactions, countries, industries and regulatory bodies - particular emphasis on M&A, securities offerings and privatisations.

IT & TELECOMS **0-2 YEARS' PQE**

One of the most extensive Australian practices - acting for suppliers, manufacturers, on-line service providers and multimedia companies.

Our departmental structure ensures real support and considerable autonomy; acting for high profile international clients and working with a cosmopolitan and commercial team which is fully integrated with a flourishing worldwide partnership. In return we are looking for focused experience gained with a recognised practice in the corporate or IT fields. We would be delighted to hear from Australian lawyers wishing to return home, or from UK lawyers seeking overseas experience (in the medium or long-term).

We offer a top salary package, relocation expenses and practical assistance with the move to Australia. Does your vision match ours?

Initial interviews will be held in London

QUARRY DOUGALL

For further information in complete confidence please contact Stephen Rodney or Deborah Dalgleish on 0171-405 6062 (0181-520 6559 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. This recruitment is being handled on an exclusive basis and any direct or third party applications will be forwarded to Quarry Dougall Recruitment.

HOLBORN/WEST END

Holborn and the West End have always been popular locations for candidates wishing to move from major City practices. Firms in these areas tend to have a more relaxed ethos and offer an interesting range of clients away from the more traditional blue chip/financial institutions of the City. We have strong links with some of the most popular firms in this area and current instructions include:

MEDIA **3-5yrs**
Exciting co/com work for high profile clients in entertainment industry. Superb working environment and friendly team.

SENIOR CORPORATE TAX **5yrs+**
Partner designate position offers an outstanding opening for a top calibre lawyer with this expanding and successful practice.

IP/COMPETITION **1-3 yrs**
Interesting workload includes Multimedia, Internet, Entertainment & soft IP in small team in 50 partner firm.

EMPLOYMENT **NQ-3 yrs**
Popular firm with interesting client base seeks confident, technically strong lawyer with solid Employment experience.

CO/COM **1-4 yrs**
Highly regarded Lincoln Inn's Field firm offers interesting private company work and excellent client contact.

SENIOR COMM. PROPERTY **3-7 yrs**
Genuine partnership prospects for an ambitious lawyer in thriving department of this highly regarded firm.

INSOLVENCY **1-4 yrs**
Good quality of life offered by thriving practice seeking a strong Insolvency lawyer, ideally with City training.

CORPORATE TAX **1-4yrs**
Genuinely varied workload in entrepreneurial environment for lawyer seeking exciting frontline role.

IN-HOUSE - LONDON

DERIVATIVES **Various**
Several top banks seek derivatives lawyers, at junior and senior levels. Great opportunities for career advancement.

LEASING / BANKING **3 - 5 yrs**
Financial services co. seeks leasing/finance specialist with strong commercial approach to join well regarded team.

GLOBAL BANK **2 - 4yrs**
Frontline transaction management role for City trained acquisition finance/securitisations specialist. Excellent package.

IT **c.2 - 4 yrs**
Dynamic co. seeks outgoing lawyer to join growing legal team handling a range of commercial/IT work.

COMPETITION **1-3yrs**
Great opportunity for a young, competition law specialist join the legal team at major international company. Varied, challenging workload and full package on offer.

For further information please call **Caroline Fish (Holborn/West End) or Bridget Burdon (In-House)** *on* **0171 430 1711**, *or write to* **Graham Gill & Young**, *46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.*

GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

0171 430 1711

LEGAL ADVISER

NORTH EAST

Our client is the largest independent leisure organisation in the UK and is widely considered to be the market leader in its field

Based in the North of England with business interests throughout the country, the Company requires an experienced Lawyer who will actively contribute to its continuing success.

This demanding and high profile position will offer considerable autonomy and in particular, the opportunity to maintain and/or develop a degree of specialisation whilst handling non-specialist areas through external advisers.

The degree of exposure to the sharp-end of commercial life and the achievement of the Company's commercial objectives is unusual.

You should have a minimum two years commercial post-qualification experience gained in practice or in-house. As contentious planning, licensing and employment matters are to be handled 'in house', experience in one or more of these fields will be a strong advantage. Our clients, however, expect to invest in the successful candidate's further development in the role which will also, through liaison with external lawyers, have a significant property and general commercial element.

Confidence and commercial awareness, will be required in handling a varied caseload and in advising all levels of management within the organisation. Success will depend on your determination and drive, and your ability to take the initiative.

In return, you can expect an attractive package, depending upon experience and track record. Please contact Katrina Paget or Allison Munro at In-House Legal, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB. Tel: 0113 2436945. Evenings and weekends: 01274 533254. Fax: 0113 2456347. E-mail:hwgroup@group.co.uk.

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FAX: 0171 782 7899

WATSON, FARLEY & WILLIAMS

Our *clear focus* and Your *ambitious nature*, in **partnership**

Senior Banking Lawyers
Immediate Partnership Prospects

You are a senior banking lawyer (at least 5 years' pqe) with general banking experience and, ideally, with exposure to structured, project or property finance work.

You are looking for the chance to make your mark in a firm which shares your goals. You know where you want to go, you know what you want from your career. It now needs the right environment, support and encouragement to bring further success.

The clear focus of our multi-jurisdictional Finance Group, principally based in London, Paris and New York, is to provide our clients with a seamless international service. We want banking lawyers like you who share this vision to join our Finance Group.

Put your ambition and our clear focus together and you have opportunities without limits. If you are what we are looking for we will offer you the chance of immediate partnership and an excellent remuneration package.



QD QUARREY DOUGALL

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney, Seamus Hoar or Sarah David our retained consultants on 0171-405 6062 (0171-403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

Southwark Legal Services

ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYER - PROSECUTIONS

Legal Assistant

P01/P02 £21,546 - £24,525 pa incl Ref: 1882

We seek an experienced environmental law assistant preferably with some experience of local authority planning law work.

You will be a fellow of ILEX (Admitted) and have at least three years experience as a Legal Assistant carrying out work relevant to this post, or a demonstrably equivalent combination of qualifications and experience.

You will also have demonstrable ability as a prosecuting advocate capable of handling a large and varied workload. This is an exciting and demanding post in a busy but well resourced office.

For further details and application form please telephone the Personnel Section on 0171 525 7547/7569.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Friday 30th May 1997.

Southwark Council

Valuing people, promoting opportunity.

Business Development Counsel



BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO, part of BAT Industries plc, is the world's most international cigarette marketeer, having more than 12% of global sales and a turnover of around £15 billion. Offering a brand for every taste and preference, we operate in over 80 countries and on every continent.

The Business Development function is responsible for British American Tobacco's expansion by way of acquisition and joint venture both in emerging and established markets throughout the world. Within the function there is a small team of experienced and well qualified lawyers.

This is an exciting opportunity for an accomplished corporate lawyer, between four and eight years' qualified, with strong mergers and acquisitions experience either in a top practice or in industry, to join our team. Each lawyer within the team assigned to a particular project has a high profile in its planning and execution. He or she can expect to be involved in complex negotiations with senior government officials and senior executives of corporations in the relevant target country and will be working with other internal departments as well as outside legal advisers, accountants and merchant banks. The projects are numerous and the size of each is in the tens of millions or more.

The successful applicant will have a sharp commercial awareness and the credibility, confidence and diplomacy to succeed in a fiercely competitive environment.

The position comes with a highly competitive salary and benefits package. The job will be based in central London and there is a significant amount of overseas travel. We place considerable importance on career development and the legal members of the Business Development team are given real opportunity to work in other parts of the group. Please write with your full CV to Dawn Swarbrick, Recruitment Manager, British American Tobacco, Millbank, Knowle Green, Staines, Middlesex TW18 1DY.

THE MEMBERS OF PLOWDEN BUILDINGS

The Members of Chambers wish to place on record their thanks to Bruce McIntyre following his 18 years of service as Head of Chambers. He has been succeeded by William Lowe of Chambers who has recently taken Silk.

Chambers are also pleased to announce the appointment of Anthony Long as Practice Manager to Chambers.

The Members of Chambers are as follows:

William Lowe QC	David Brook
Bruce McIntyre	Peter Morton
Charlotte Buckhaven	Kerry Cox
Elizabeth Hindmarsh	Graeme Gaston
David Trotter	Claire Lindsay
Richard Craven	Cyrus Larizadeh
Ian West	Peter Freeman
Jonathan Holmes	Susan Gore
Catherine Foster	Frances Zammit
Simon Dyer	Alistair Speirs
Camilla Quigley	Jamie Clarke

Clerk to Chambers - Paul Hurst
Practice Manager - Anthony Long

Plowden Buildings
Temple, London EC4Y 9BU
Tel: 0171 583 0808 Fax: 0171 583 5106
DX: 0020 Chancery Lane

KENT MAGISTRATES' COURTS
JUSTICES' CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MINIMUM SALARY £60,000

Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee is seeking to appoint an experienced manager to lead the Kent Magistrates' Courts Service, currently consisting of 14 courts, approximately 800 magistrates and 250 staff, into the 21st century.

The Committee will welcome applications from suitably experienced managers who must be Barristers/Solicitors of at least five years standing. The position of Justices' Chief Executive is a key one, being the chief officer and head of the paid service in Kent. The successful candidate will act as Clerk to the Committee and will be responsible for advising the Committee on the planning and provision of an effective magistrates' courts service in Kent and for the implementation of the Committee's plans. The Justices' Chief Executive will also be appointed joint justices' clerk for the county in regard to accounting, fixed penalties and other administrative purposes.

A minimum salary of £60,000 will be payable, together with normal senior management benefits. There is the option to join an attractive pension scheme. The post is based in Ashford.

An application form and further information may be obtained by telephoning Mrs A P Alvey of the Committee Secretariat on Ashford (01233) 653102. Alternatively, interested persons may discuss the position informally with Mr S C Denham (the existing Justices' Chief Executive) by telephoning 01233-653104.

The closing date for applications is 6 June, 1997.

Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee
The Courthouse
Tufton Street
Ashford
TN23 1QS

We welcome applications from all sectors of the community irrespective of race, gender, ethnic origin or disability.

NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

NOTTINGHAM LAW SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL LEGAL STUDIES

Legal Practice Course Lectureships in Law

Up to £27,714 pa

Nottingham Law School has established a pre-eminent reputation for its Legal Practice Course which is rated excellent by the Law Society. We also run an innovative range of practice Masters programmes with an established reputation in the profession.

We are currently looking for practitioners to join our Legal Practice Course team. You will also be expected to teach a range of professional skills and to contribute to academic programmes within the Department. There may be a requirement to carry out some weekend teaching. Previous teaching experience is not required, but you should be willing to learn and to develop tutoring techniques as part of a highly professional team.

Business Law

We are looking to appoint one additional member to this team. You will be expected to have substantial experience of corporate and commercial work; experience of advising public companies and of working in the corporate finance field would be an added advantage.

Post Ref No: L0012/TIL.

Litigation

We intend to appoint a minimum of two additional members to this team, to support our litigation programmes. You should have practice experience in at least one of the following areas: criminal; commercial litigation; employment; personal injury.

Post Ref No: L0018/TIL.

Informal enquiries should be made to Professor Philip Knott on (0115) 9486875.

Further details and application forms are available from Personnel Services, The Nottingham Trent University, Burton Street, Nottingham NG1 4BU, by telephoning (0115) 9486522 (24 hour answering service).

Please quote appropriate Post Ref No. Closing date: 30 May 1997.

For all vacancies see our Internet page http://www.ntu.ac.uk/personnel.

CVs will only be accepted when submitted with a fully completed application form.

We are actively implementing equality of opportunity policies and seek people who share our commitment.

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

Building a strong, business-focused commercial team

You need the opportunity to operate pro-actively in a fast-moving, dynamic business where your commercial expertise will have a real impact. You demand a level of involvement, variety and international exposure far beyond the reach of most organisations. For you, the opportunity for extensive personal and career development is vital.

Commercial Management in ICL is high-profile. It offers high-calibre, ambitious commercial professionals a level of challenge and opportunity second to none – no idle promise we guarantee.

We are one of Europe's leading IT systems and service companies. Working at the forefront of technology in highly competitive marketplaces, on projects which frequently span international boundaries, and continually generate new commercial opportunities. The measure of your contribution and success as a Commercial Manager will be your ability to positively influence the commercial decision-making process.

At an operational level this will mean using your well-honed professional skills to draft, negotiate, review and monitor project contracts, and ensure compliance with legal and commercial business requirements. Strategically you will identify ways to improve customer satisfaction, increase profitability and facilitate the delivery of key business objectives.

These roles require individuals with a strong personal presence, able to work confidently as a key member of a business unit management team. Whilst a proven background of achievement in a commercial environment, gained either as a lawyer or finance professional in an international company is essential; drive, enthusiasm and first-class interpersonal skills are equally important.

In return, your contribution will attract a highly competitive salary together with a valuable range of large company benefits.

So if you're ready to step up to a new level of challenge, please write with a full CV and current salary details to: Jon Morgan, ICL Group Resourcing, Eskdale Road, Winnersh, Berkshire RG11 5TT.

Closing date: Friday 23rd May 1997.

Commercial Management

Thames Valley and Dublin

ICL



ICL that's IT.

March 31, the group had £12 billion under management.

ber 31. The shares closed up 71p to 75p.

مكبر من الاصل

Global Law Firm

PROJECT / INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE

London *UK Qualified* *To £100,000*

A well known international firm, with an established infrastructure/project finance and privatisation practice in North and South America and the Far East, wishes to expand its operations. Long established in the UK, the firm's objectives will result in a doubling in size of its London office over the short to medium term.

A UK qualified lawyer with 5-7 years' experience of international project/corporate finance work (or a strong corporate/banking background with an interest in specialising in this area) is sought to participate in the next crucial phase of growth. You will be rewarded richly in both financial terms and the opportunity to develop your practice. The right candidate will have excellent partnership prospects.

Seeking autonomy with extensive support? Excellent clients, and colleagues throughout the world who are are happy to send them your way? A collegiate environment not often available in a firm of this calibre?

The consideration of your future could mean the consideration of ours.

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Deborah Dolgleish or Sarah David on 0171-405 6062 (0181-520 6559 or 0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

PHARMACEUTICALS 5-8 YEARS' PQE
Successful Pharmaceutical firm is offering a broad based role-advising across a wide range of the company's activities. Experience of US corporate compliance work and M & A required. Competitive salary and package on offer. Ref: 3281.
Contact: Richard Gawn.

ENERGY PROJECTS BIRMINGHAM
Are you committed to handling top quality projects work for an international client-base but convinced you have to stay *in London? You do not need to compromise your deservedly* large salary because this Birmingham firm, which enjoys a reputation envied by many City practices, will offer a competitive salary to rival others. To join the energy group, 1 years' pqe. Ref: 3880.
Contact: Cleo Binns.

BANKING/COMMERCIAL OMAN
International practice with a significant presence in the Middle East offers a complete change of environment for senior lawyers of 5 years' pqe to specialise in banking and commercial work on a truly international scale. Located in the firm's Oman office, you will compliment a professional and highly motivated team and enjoy a quality of life sans pareil. Ref: 3935.
Contact: Cleo Binns.

MULTIMEDIA/PUBLISHING 3-5 YEARS' PQE
Young and dynamic team which has become a major player in the *media & communications field, is looking to take on another* young but experienced assistant to continue their expansion. Your experience should include commercial/IP work, you should be entrepreneurial and enjoy the marketing process. Clients include high-profile TV and film production Co's, large publishing houses, and International multimedia Co's. Partnership prospects are very real and package is superb. Ref: 2946.
Contact: Jane Glassberg.

TELECOMS/REGULATORY AFFAIRS
We have a number of roles for regulatory affairs managers with various companies in the telecoms industry. Our instructions include positions in Germany and Spain, Central London and the Home Counties. Previous regulatory experience is a must. Ref: 3661.
Contact: Richard Gawn.

PRIVATE CLIENT 1-6 YEARS' PQE
Superb opportunity to join one of the leaders in this area to give *specialist advice on the full gamut of top quality private client work* including UK and international tax planning, trust formation, off-shore trusts and wills, probate and succession planning. As the department in this friendly top City firm is going from strength to strength prospects are brilliant. Ref: 1885.
Contact: Pandora Close.

DERIVATIVES ALL LEVELS
A North American investment house seeks a junior lawyer *(1-4 pqe) with derivatives experience to join a small close-knit* team. Ref: 3910.
A European Bank requires a confident specialist (5-8 pqe) with in-house experience for a supervisory role. Ref: 3817.
A US operation needs specialist Credit Derivatives experience (3-5 pqe). Ref: 3677.
Contact: Paul Rennacles.

PERSONAL INJURY SPECIALISTS 2-5 YEARS' PQE
This prestigious Central London practice requires two plaintiff personal injury lawyers. Reporting directly to the Head of Department the senior lawyer will have responsibility for case management, client care and the supervision of four staff. In addition, you will inherit an existing caseload currently producing a substantial fee-income. The firm has attracted excellent staff to date and wishes to maintain this emphasis on quality. Ref: 1220.
Contact: Peter Gosden.

HC **Hughes-Castell** *International Legal Recruitment Consultants*

London Office: 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1BD. Tel: 0171 242 0303 Fax: 0171 242 7111
Hong Kong Office: 602 East Town Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2520 1168 Fax: 2865 0925

LONDON & HONG KONG

CORPORATE TO £70,000
Manifestly successful, highly profitable City practice enjoys a well earned reputation for the excellence of its Corporate Department and *now seeks further ambitious and able 1-5 year* qualified lawyers. Varied client base ranges from entrepreneurs to listed clients and financial institutions. High level of client contact is encouraged. The firm has a reputation for fast tracking *candidates of partnership calibre.* (Ref.4618)

ENERGY PROJECTS £42-75,000
This successful and profitable London firm has made a virtue of concentrating on and expanding niche areas. Its high profile energy practice continues to grow, and is now looking to recruit further oil, gas and projects lawyers, ideally between 2 and 7 years' qualified, either from private practice or industry, who can offer both commercial and technical *legal skills.* (Ref.5875)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TO £55,000
The IP/IT practice of this medium sized City firm is an undoubted success story. It continues to play a key role in a wide range of work, both contentious and non-contentious, advising *high profile clients* on the full range of franchising, trade marks, patents and other discreet IP and IT issues. The department is now looking for talented lawyers with up to 5 years pqe. (Ref.8674)

HONG KONG FINANCE 0-3 PQE
Our Client, a top 5 City firm, is seeking junior finance lawyers for *syndicated loans, structured and project finance work in numerous* existing developments in Hong Kong, mainland China, Taiwan and Asia. Although banking experience is not essential; candidates should have Cantonese and/or Mandarin language skills, and an ability to *draft in both English and Chinese.* (Ref.9515)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY NQ
This well-managed medium sized City firm effortlessly combines high *profit margins with low turnover of staff. The Commercial Property* Department is particularly admired, and work levels remain unabated. As a result, there is a need to recruit at least two newly qualified property solicitors to *undertake a mixture of portfolio* management work, development and corporate support. (Ref.2436)

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS £70,000
International funds work has been identified by this major City practice as an area for investment and growth. With a strong domestic funds and regulatory practice and an international network in most of the main financial centres, our Client is well positioned to exploit its contacts with fund managers and *institutions active* in this sector. A *senior assistant* who will merit rapid elevation to partnership or a junior partner in this field is sought. (Ref.8043)

HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION 3-5 PQE
This expansive City firm has offices throughout South East Asia, where its projects practice continues to benefit from the buoyant Eastern market. As a result, there are still opportunities for young lawyers to make their mark, particularly in the field of non-contentious construction. Chinese language skills are not necessary. (Ref.9544)

EMPLOYMENT TO £42,000
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EAGAN JANION

Mind my language: **Stephen Jakobi** on the problems that can arise in cases of 'foreign' justice

When justice is hard to understand

Karen Henderson, an 18-year-old Scot, was arrested at Moscow airport in February last year, while accompanying a 23-year-old Dutch woman on a circuitous flight from Cuba to Western Europe. The suitcases they carried contained a large quantity of cocaine in false bottoms. In July the older woman pleaded guilty and was sentenced to six years' jail.

Henderson maintained that she had been set up; nevertheless, when her trial took place last October, she was sentenced to six years in a Russian labour camp. Her Russian lawyers appealed on various grounds, including the absence of factual consideration in arriving at a guilty verdict.

On April 15 the Appeal Court granted her a retrial on the ground that her English-language interpreter was incompetent and incomprehensible. She is now being held illegally in prison, because the court made no provision for her continued detention pending retrial and both our embassy and her lawyers have registered official protests. During the original trial, both she and her lawyers had repeatedly applied, in vain, for a change of interpreter.

This case highlights perhaps the most basic legal right of a foreigner accused in civilised society: to be understood and to understand. It is astonishing how often in practice this right is ignored in the day-to-day business of lower-tier courts throughout Europe.

The problem often starts long before trial, even during preliminary questioning. Dharmadei Jawahir, 52, a disabled mother of seven, is Dutch. In January 1995, she was invited to accompany a friend for a shopping trip to England. She says she intended to buy some clothes and several bottles of Dettol. The car was stopped in Harwich and a large quantity of cocaine was found in its structure. The UK is, thanks to the pioneering work of the Nuffield Foundation, pre-eminent in the training and supply of legal interpreters for such a situation and a Dutch interpreter was provided. Unfortunately, Mrs Jawahir is of Asian origin and was not fluent in Dutch.

The rest of her story has the inevitability of a Greek tragedy. At her trial in July 1995, she was again supplied with a Dutch interpreter for the duration of the trial. She says she did not understand what was going on and was incapable of following the evidence of witnesses and giving proper instructions as the trial proceeded. A Hindi interpreter did arrive to translate her own evidence but immediately departed when she finished. Again, fright prevented her protesting, and despite the Crown prosecutor's accepting the evidence that a £1.50 bottle of Dettol in the UK costs £8 in Holland, this did not weigh sufficiently in her favour and this semi-literate woman was given ten years' jail for being a minder for the driver. She now sits, weeping, in Holloway prison in north London.

> 'There have been many well-founded instances of incompetent translation'

One of her sons in The Netherlands has a fatal illness. It would be a relatively simple matter for her to be transferred to Holland for the rest of her sentence and to see him before he died. But if she applies for such a transfer, she would have to accept her guilt as a condition. She is refusing to apply and fears she will never see her son again.

There have been so many well-founded complaints about translation, at all stages of proceedings, that the interpreter problem is possibly the greatest discriminatory barrier to justice for European Union citizens. Article 6(3) of the European Convention on Human Rights provides that anyone charged with a criminal offence has the right *inter alia* "to be informed properly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him" and "to have the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court."

A European Court of Human Rights decision, *Kamasinski v Austria*, relating specifically to the provision of court interpretation services, states that the provision of an interpreter alone is not enough. Those providing the service are responsible for the standard and competence of the interpreter.

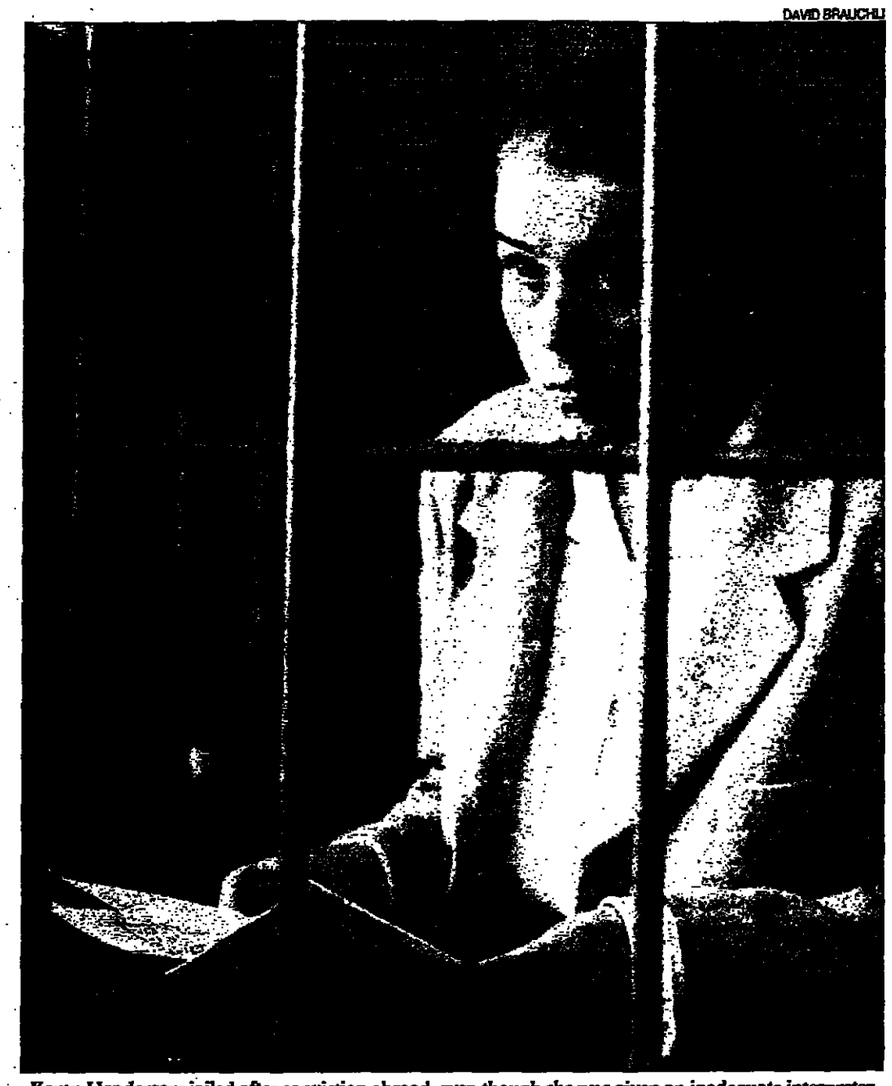
The institutions of the European Union are certainly aware of this problem and when the European Commission's multinational programme on legal co-operation, the Grotius programme, was started earlier this year, one of the first projects funded an inquiry into current standards of legal interpretation throughout Europe.

This Fair Trials Abroad research project has made a good start under the leadership of Sara de Mas, formerly co-ordinator of the Nuffield project in England, but the eventual goal of recognised EU standards of legal interpretation is many years away.

The only protection for the Hendersons and Jawahirs, meanwhile, is the vigilance of all those involved in the legal process — from law enforcers to judges.

● *The author, a solicitor, is director of the Fair Trials Abroad Trust (0181-332 2800).*

DAVID BRAUCHLI



Karen Henderson: jailed after conviction abroad, even though she was given an inadequate interpreter

Meeting to beat global criminals

Frances Gibb on the criminal law reform conference with a world focus

Drug trafficking, terrorism and other organised crimes, including computer crime and child prostitution, have burgeoned in the past decade. All are transnational, so the law and law enforcement authorities increasingly have to work across national boundaries. This summer, with that in mind, criminal experts from worldwide jurisdictions will meet in London to agree strategies and exchange information at the 10th anniversary conference of the Society for the Reform of the Criminal Law.

The conference, to be opened by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, will provide the venue for a top-level debate on topics ranging from money-laundering and police investigative powers to a Bill of Rights and sentencing.

The meeting, from July 27 to August 1, is expected to attract several hundred judges and lawyers from Commonwealth and other jurisdictions, including the Far East. Michael Hill, QC, the conference chairman, says: "People will be looking at how we cope with organised transnational crime, an anxiety all the jurisdictions have, while not being pushed into draconian measures but seeking to maintain the basic rights of individuals."

David Veness, an assistant commissioner from the Metropolitan Police, will speak on transnational and organised crime; Roy Penrose, deputy assistant commissioner, regional crime squads of England and Wales, and Willy Bruggeman, of Europol, on drug trafficking. The former legal adviser to the UK security services, David Bickford, will speak on terrorism, and Albert Pacey, director general of the National Criminal Intelligence Service (UK), on money-laundering.

There will be workshop and seminar sessions on disclosure, police powers, entrapment and the use of informers, extradition and mutual assistance between countries, legal aid, plea bargaining and defendants' rights. Dr David Thomas, QC, will chair a session on sentencing.

Two key topics — one domestic, one international — will dominate the final full conference debate: the merits and pitfalls of a Bill of Rights, one of the Government's proposed constitutional reforms, on which speakers will include the High Court judge Mr Justice Sedley, and the proposed United Nations international criminal court. Steven Kay, QC, and Judge Adolphus Karib-Whyte will talk about their experiences at the International Criminal Tribunal at The Hague.

The event is also a significant one for the Society for the Reform of the Criminal Law itself. Based in Canada, the society was started in London ten years ago when 200 experts from around the world gathered at the Inns of Court to discuss the reform of criminal law. They agreed to found the society, a charitable association, as a permanent focus for criminal law reform and as a catalyst for research and development.

Many research projects have since been conducted and in 1991, the society linked with the Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia to set up an International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy. The centre, in Vancouver, is now affiliated to the United Nations as one of its international institutes.

Mr Hill is hopeful that this year's conference will have a significant impact in law reform and in forwarding the society's anti-isolationist message. "What we do here in the UK has an impact on what others do, and vice versa," he says.

● *Details of Law & Justice — Where now? (sponsored by The Times and Sweet & Maxwell) from: Blair Communications, 0171 722 9731. Society for the Reform of the Criminal Law: Suite 1000, 840 Howe St, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6Z 2M1. e-mail: dsorochan@mindlink.bc.ca*

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Candidates should have 3 or 4 years' directly relevant experience gained with either a substantial legal practice or in fund management, preferably with an international bias.

Ideal age is late 20's. Salary is c£50,000 with some room for discussion, benefits are generous and career prospects excellent. Please forward a full CV with salary details, quoting reference 1460, to Terry Fuller, Director, Kidsons Impey Search & Selection Ltd 29 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5LP Tel: 0171 321 0336 Fax: 0171 976 1116 E-Mail: 106141.3404@Compuserve.com.

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact our retained consultants, **Andy Golding** and **Lisa Hicks** on 0171-377 0510 (0171-642 5237 evenings /weekends) or write to them at 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail andyg@zmb.co.uk Closing date for applications 27th May 1997. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to ZMB.

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NEW CHALLENGES

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If you are a senior employment assistant (around 6 years qualified) and are seeking early partnership, this top 20 City firm is the one. The department offers an excellent spread of contentious and non-contentious work for a significant range of clients. Partner with contacts would also fit. Ref: T39981

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*For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Emma Cowell, Seamus Hoar or Nick Peacock** (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-627 3674 or 0171-403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.*

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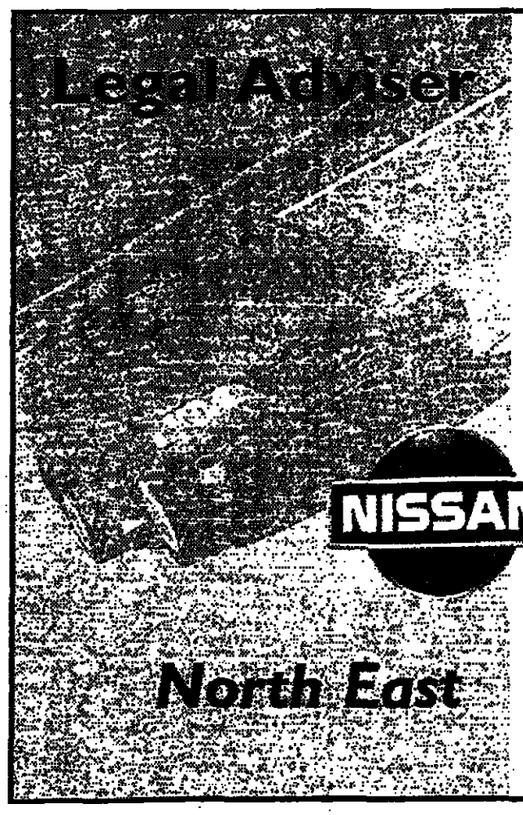
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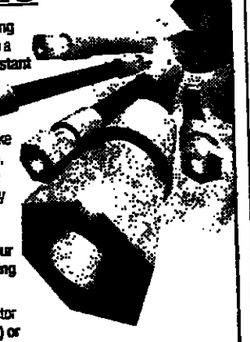
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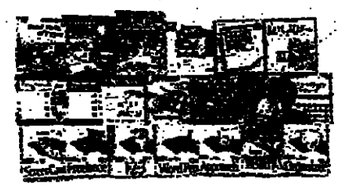
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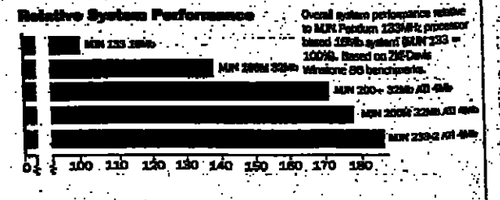
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In spite of gloomy predictions, the British appetite for costume is undiminished, says **Jennai Cox**

Fancy for dressing up retains its glamour

Costumes worn by the Conservative Party chicken, runners in the London Marathon and the celebrities at Elton John's recent 50th birthday party are proof that the British have lost none of their appetite for dressing up, according to hire shops.

Recent reports that a more serious younger generation is shunning fancy dress and forcing shops to go out of business are untrue, they claim. More shops than ever are coming into the market in response to the public's demand for elaborate, upmarket costumes and to cater for what they expect will be an unprecedented run on hiring fancy dress in the run-up to the millennium celebrations.

Costume hire shops that ceased trading during the recession did so for reasons that had nothing to do with a puritanical attitude towards fancy dress, Peter Rigby, membership secretary of the British Costume Association, says. Shops went under for the same reasons as in any other type of business. "If anything, men in particular are more keen than ever to get dressed up and make fools of themselves," he says.

> 'If anything, men are more keen than ever to get dressed up and make fools of themselves'

Mr Rigby also says that many of the shops reported to have disappeared had actually moved to larger premises, and those that had to close have all been replaced. "Of 1,000 shops we recently wrote to only 50 had gone out of business," he says. "And we have 55 new members so far this year."

The market for costume hire has, however, changed and the surviving outlets are the ones that have adapted and diversified to meet the new demand. "Businesses have had to add another string or two to their bow," Mr Rigby adds.

Mr Rigby's own company, Antrix, at Maidstone in Kent, which was started from a private costume collection 20 years ago, now uses computer technology to print party invitations and theme packs. Magic tricks, juggling equipment, stage lighting and face painting are all areas into which the owners of fancy dress shops have expanded to support their main business.

Mr Rigby says: "It is fair to say shops cannot survive on costume hire alone anymore. Proprietors are looking forward and anticipating what the turn of the century might bring."

The market is getting older and growing more particular, according to Tracy Puffet, who hires her 4,000 outfits from Bumbleweed's Magic Wardrobe in Cheltenham and supplies costume patterns to others in the trade.

"People become less inhibited as they get older," she says. "But they still want to look good when they go out, no matter what they wear. There is no longer room for the cheap, shabby costumes."

Theme nights, corporate promotional days, and business-to-business team-building events increasingly supplement the traditional seasonal demand for costumes, Ms Puffet says. She is already receiving inquiries about the millennium celebrations and is in the process of ordering another 2,000 fancy dress outfits in preparation for the event.

"We are building up our range of historical and space-age costumes," she says. "The public will suddenly start walking through the door and want something immediately. People love celebrating and we have to start getting ready for it now."

With December 31, 1999, falling on a Friday, the industry is expecting a weekend packed with parties and there is an awareness that the public will want to make it more memorable than any past New Year's Eve.

Vic Worthy, who hires costumes to customers of his themed restaurant, Knights Out, in Reading city centre and is building a new booking office to cope with demand, expects thousands of people to be dressed up to welcome in the new century.

"People can change character when in costume, they can really let their hair down," Mr Worthy says. "They work hard now and want to play hard, and to do that they like to pretend and get out of themselves. Most of our customers come back time and time again and we have already got several bookings for the millennium."

Gearing up for the year 2000 celebrations, though, is only part of what is keeping fancy dress shop owners run off their feet. Eunice Shrimpton, who runs Pepe's Costume Hire from her home near St Neots in Cambridgeshire, has a policy of allowing customers to make evening appointments, and says that there is a widespread demand for costumes springing up.

Amateur dramatic societies, murder-mystery weekends, period weddings, Sixties-style discos and Tudor banquets are just some of the events that she has supplied. Such has been the level of demand that Ms Shrimpton has arranged many of the events herself.

As education and seminar organiser for the British Costume Association, Ms Shrimpton also points out that hiring fancy dress is one of the few areas of business in which the proprietors should make a "sale" every time a customer steps into the shop.

"Customers do not come in to browse," she says. "If your service is right and your stock is up to scratch you should have hired or sold to 98 per cent of them."

FINDLAY KEMBER



Eunice Shrimpton runs a costume hire business from her home in Cambridgeshire. "If your stock is up to scratch you should hire or sell to 98 per cent of customers."

Funding pledge by electronics chief

By Brian Collett

SMALL electronics companies are to be helped to draw the unclaimed public funds to which they are entitled.

The pledge was made last week by Barry Wood, the new president of the Federation of the Electronics Industry, as part of his commitment to small and medium-size enterprises during his year of office.

Mr Wood, the federation's first president from a small business, pointed out that 97 per cent of Britain's 70,000 companies in the electronics and related industries employ fewer than 20 people, and some were bewildered by the arrangements under which finance was available from the Government and EU.

Mr Wood said that he would encourage long-term partnerships between small specialist suppliers and large corporations rather than casual, one-off associations. He believed this interdependence would be of increasing importance.

His other main aim as president will be to ensure that small companies' views were heard by the federation and, where appropriate, passed on to the Government or Europe.

At the same time he declared himself against red tape. He said: "We would not want to be hidebound by over-control from government and we look forward to Europe being an open marketplace that is not constrained by the dogma of bureaucracy."

Mr Wood, 59, is chairman and managing director of Celab, based at Bordon, Hampshire. He led a management buyout in 1990 after it had been taken over by Asea Brown Boveri, the Swiss-Swedish conglomerate.



Barry Wood, federation president: partnership aims

Businesses sceptical over new tax system

By Rodney Hobson

AS MANY small businesses have come to suspect, accountants will be the main beneficiaries of the introduction this year of self-assessment for income tax.

Business Pages, the telephone directory, estimates that 85 per cent of businesses will be employing accountants or tax advisers to complete their tax returns, while only 10 per cent feel they can do the job themselves.

Business Pages talked to 500 businesses with turnover below £5 million. Only three out of every ten thought self-assessment was a step in the right direction, while twice as many said it would involve more time and paperwork. About 65 per cent complained that it would neither make their business more efficient nor save them money.

Although the overwhelming majority of small businesses have kept all the relevant records since April last year, many could still be in for a nasty shock. The finding that 65 per cent of businesses claimed to be prepared for self-assessment has to be set against the fact that just over half were unaware of exactly what the new system involves.

Although it was widely known that there were penalties for late returns, few knew how much the fines could be.



"It would be nice if somebody gave *me* some money"

Shoppers back in high street, says study

By Rodney Hobson

THERE IS encouraging news at last for small high-street retailers — rents are rising slowly, and shoppers are returning.

Richard Ellis, the property consultancy, says that in-town shop rents grew by only 2.7 per cent in the 12 months to April 30, while office rents were increasing by 6.2 per cent.

Angus McIntosh, its director of research, said: "Although some high-street rents are now growing, many property investors own shops where there is still very weak demand from occupiers. Some in-town locations are struggling to compete with out-of-town locations."

Meanwhile, Barclays Merchant Services, which processes plastic card transactions, says that retailers have seen an improvement in sales over the past six months. However, many retailers are cautious of predicting further growth in spite of the spending power that will be unleashed by building society windfalls.

Retailers say that their own efforts in improving advertising and marketing have brought about the better performance, although there is an increasing belief that there has been a genuine pick-up in the economy.

Tony Slater, sales and marketing director for Barclays Merchant Services, said: "It is good to see that retailers are finally leaving behind the effects of recession and are now experiencing solid growth.

"Business confidence is certainly returning as they are not relying on the 'feel-good' factor to improve their business but are concentrating their efforts on marketing themselves better to customers."

Camden opportunity drive

SMALL businesses are inspecting empty council-owned property in the London Borough of Camden under an initiative to increase economic activity there (Rodney Hobson writes).

The Business Opportunity Scheme, which aims to match homeless businesses with empty commercial property, was launched last month at a trade fair at the Camden Centre. About 600 people attended and businesses from London and further afield have been invited to view suitable buildings.

They were given six weeks to put in a business plan. Since enterprises that have been running for less than a year were targeted, Camden Council is running workshops and courses to help them to draw up proposals. The idea has the backing of Camden Enterprise (Centa) and came out of discussion between councillors and officers.

Camden council owns 1,100 properties and some have been standing empty. A batch of 25 that had been unused for more than a year were picked for the initiative. Several were shop units on housing estates. Small industrial work units were also included. Grants of up to £2,000 will be available towards the cost of occupation and business grants will reduce rents by 75 per cent, 50 per cent and 25 per cent in the first three years. Leases will run for six years.

Applicants will also have access to business support services offered by Centa, including business planning workshops, management consultancy, and advice on accounting, law, marketing and information technology.

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HOW THE OFFER WORKS

The Virgin Trains network (a map was published yesterday) is divided into four zones. You can make a return journey within a particular zone for only £5 per person provided your entire journey is within the same zone. For every zone you travel into you pay an extra £5.

*Saving compared to 7-day Apex return of £40. **Not available during the bank holiday, August 23-25,1997. No travel permitted until 10am and between 3pm-6pm Mon-Fri from London Euston. No travel until 10am from Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham New Street, Wolverhampton or intermediate stations to London Euston.

HOW TO APPLY

Collect 10 differently numbered tokens, eight from *The Times* and two from *The Sunday Times*. Applications must be received by first post on June 15, 1997. Only one application per return ticket per reader will be allowed. Unaccompanied children cannot take advantage of this offer. Full terms and conditions will appear again in *The Sunday Times* next Sunday. The first application form will appear in Saturday's *Times*.

THE TIMES 2 TODAY

CHANGING TIMES

BRIEFINGS

☐ European money has been granted to help to develop businesses and to create 12,500 jobs in the East Midlands, Plymouth and Thanet in Kent as areas whose manufacturing industries have declined. The East Midlands will receive 113.7 million ecus (£80 million) for research and innovative technology programmes, while the 38.5 million ecus (£27 million) for Plymouth and the 22.3 million ecus (£15 million) for Thanet will be devoted to tourism-related businesses. Public funds in the UK will add about £168 million and the private sector about £28 million.

☐ A second edition of *101 Ways to Start Your Own Business* has been published by Kogan Page. The publisher has also produced *Make That Call*, giving advice on improving telephone skills. Both cost £8.99.

☐ A seminar on planning for succession in family businesses will be run by the Stoy Centre for Family Business, at Bournemouth on May 21. The same day the centre will also run a seminar in London on floating or selling a family business. *Details: 0171-486 5888.*

☐ NatWest Bank has set aside £50 million to lend to small and medium-size companies with projects to lessen damage to the environment.

☐ A free guide to factoring and invoice discounting, *Making Your Cash Flow*, is available from the Factors and Discounters Association. *Call 0171-290 6938.*

☐ The demand for temporary secretaries and clerical staff by small and medium-size businesses is reported by the Office Angels recruitment agency to be 60 per cent higher than five years ago. The company says that employers that used temporary staff after reducing numbers during recession have continued the practice.

☐ The 1997 Europartenariat events, the informal international forums for small businesses run by the European Union, will be in Piraeus, Greece, on June 23 and 24, and in Clermont-Ferrand, central France, in October. *Details: 01203 694484.*

March 31, the group had £12 billion under management.

ber 31. The shares closed up 7½p to 75p.

Second-best good enough if you can win and Bear it



Elliott has been one of the prime assets for Teddy Three since being switched into midfield by Dalglish

IN ASSOCIATION WITH sports

MANCHESTER UNITED and Rangers may have won their respective league championships but that does not mean that their players will make the grade with some of our managers in the Interactive Team Football game.

The weekly prize-winner is Mr B. Bear, of Grays, in Essex, and he has shunned both teams. His two best performers this week are from Newcastle United, who finished runners-up to United in the FA Carling Premiership. Darren Peacock, who played at centre half for Newcastle when they beat Nottingham Forest 5-0 in their final game of the season, earned 11 points after three matches this week without a goal being conceded.

However, it was one of Mr Bear's full backs who was the star of his team, Teddy Three. Robbie Elliott had not scored a goal for Newcastle in almost two season until Kenny Dalglish replaced Kevin Keegan as manager and switched the 23-year-old to midfield. This move may have not been what Mr Bear may have wanted but since Elliott has scored seven goals in 17 games, and been instrumental in him winning the £250 prize as the weekly winner, he probably has few complaints.

Mr Bear's team is:

Goalkeeper
S Kerr (Celtic)

Full backs
S I Bjornebye (Liverpool)
R Elliott (Newcastle)

Central defenders
D Peacock (Newcastle)
S Bilic (West Ham)

Midfield players
J Redknapp (Liverpool)
M Gayle (Wimbledon) R Winters (Dundee Utd)
Juninho (Middlesbrough)

Strikers
M Beck (Middlesbrough)
I Wright (Arsenal)

Manager
J Kinnear (Wimbledon)

You can still use the ITF transfer system, even though the regular transfer system has ended for the season, which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 866 968** line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call **0044 990 200 668.**

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

☐ ***All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

There are no transfers or loaned players in Interactive Team Football this week

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	All players	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



Last chance for transfers



There is still the FA Cup between Chelsea and Middlesbrough on Saturday, then the Tennents Scottish cup final which mark the end of the ITF competition. The points scored in these two matches will decide your final position in the 1996-97 ITF league. *The Times* and Sky Sports Interactive will be inviting some of the top entrants to Football Football, the London sports restaurant, to celebrate the end of the season. Among them will be the overall winner who will receive £50,000, the second prizewinner who gets £10,000 and third-place winner who receives £2,500.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH sky sports

See Sky Text, page 118

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom, call 0044 990 200 668

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (or push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You entered your ten-digit selection PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the two-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one day (one telephone call) if you make entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals, two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by someone from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

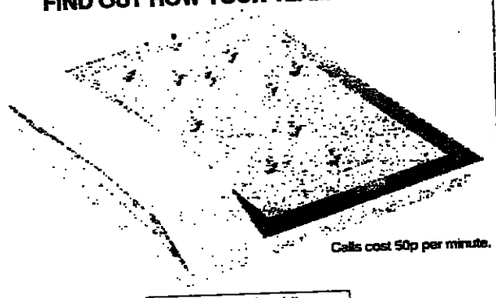
Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 50p per minute. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.



FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Calls cost 50p per minute.

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Turners Earners 5	(P Turner)	817
2	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	814
3	Edmo Utd	(D Edmondson)	798
4	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	792
5	Turners Earners 3	(P Turner)	791
6=	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	785
6=	Nobby 32	(J Brown)	785
8	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	784
9	Daggers	(V Cox)	780
10=	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	775
10=	Nobby	(J Brown)	775
12=	Teddy Three	(B Bear)	766
12=	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	766
14=	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	765
14=	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	765
16	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	764
17	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	763
18	Bobs Boys 2	(R Calder)	760
19=	12 Angry Men	(D Cook)	759
19=	A	(M Corless)	759
21	Nonchalont A F C 3	(R Ward)	758
22	Icarus	(Mrs B Wells)	757
23	Nobby 22	(J Brown)	748
24=	Nobby 29	(J Brown)	747
24=	Ab 4	(A Boyland)	747
26	Beeston Celtic	(B Mcgivern)	746
27	Blythe Spartans	(T Blythe)	744
28	Abc	(M Baber)	743
29	Waternish FC	(M Kirkwood)	739
30	Jabberwocky	(P Amoss)	738
31	1970 Jr FC	(J Ross)	734
32	Turners Earners 1	(P Turner)	731
33=	Partick Bilbao 3	(J Hamilton)	730
33=	Bcfc 1998	(J Bithell)	730
35=	Misfits	(R Lockyer)	729
35=	Nobby 21	(J Brown)	729
37	Uni Boys Utd 1	(B Gardiner)	728
38	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	727
39=	Storm	(P Mills)	724
39=	Jones' Boys 8	(M Jones)	724
41	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	722
42	Gestalt	(R Rowe)	720
43	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	719
44=	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	718
44=	Farr Academicals	(A Kirkwood)	718
46	Bobs Boys 4	(R Calder)	717
47=	Krystonia 2	(S Roberts)	716
47=	Brainbows United	(G Weiss)	716
47=	Jib Sports	(A Bates)	716
50	Turners Earners 4	(P Turner)	715
51=	Your Not Very Well	(R Laskowfki)	714
51=	D J S 2	(D Senton)	714
51=	Thorn Foolery F C	(M Horan)	714
54=	Orviato Classico	(Dr J Bradshaw)	713
54=	Bladerunners	(P Walters)	713
54=	Noahs Ark	(G P Dolan)	713
57=	Where's Rey Gone?	(P Fromm)	712
57=	Midfield Magic	(J Pregon)	712
59	Club18-30 Tosss	(A Robson)	710
60	Man City Free Zone	(D Ingham)	709
61=	Concrete Banana	(S Mingle)	708
61=	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	708
63=	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	707
63=	Hunters Mob	(C Hunter)	707
65	Tur	(P Turner)	706
66	Turners Earners 6	(P Turner)	705
67	Nobby 23	(J Brown)	704
68	Doppelgangereutd	(J Whaling)	704
69=	Tulips Tops	(D Tulip)	703
69=	Bobs Boys 3	(R Calder)	702
69=	Skyforest	(A Burton)	702
72=	Murrays Mates	(D Anderson)	701
72=	Sam Shanks	(S Shankar)	701
74=	Scholes For Goals	(K Booth)	700
74=	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	700
74=	Inter The Unknown	(P Barnett)	700
77=	Bad Time Boys	(R Crook)	699
77=	Elsmore United	(P Leader)	699
77=	Bobs Boys 1	(R Calder)	699
80=	Born Losers	(P Farkins)	698
80=	Always Portugal 1	(V Guimaraes)	698
80=	Afc	(M Baber)	698
83	Benky Boys	(R Crook)	697
84=	Jan 2	(Mrs J Clayton)	695
84=	Top Banana	(M Bottomley)	695
84=	Jones Boys Sky	(M Jones)	695
87=	Inwins Best	(L Sampson)	693
87=	Bunnet Boys	(A Sharpe)	693
89=	P J B Rovers	(PJ Butler)	692
89=	Mmm Fantasy Leaguers	(M Madden)	692
91=	End 2	(J Hagger)	691
91=	Bubwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	691
91=	Bobs Boys 5	(R Calder)	691
94	Glen Duffers	(S Wilson)	690
95=	Garforth Seahawks	(I Doughty)	689
95=	The Dummies 1	(D Shiels)	689
97=	Enid Four	(J Feather)	687
97=	Caught Lucky	(C Wright)	687
97=	Ebbeys 1st X I	(S Baldrick)	687
97=	Pj Thistle	(R Newbould)	687
97=	A2	(K Farhall)	687
97=	L F C Champs 96 97	(B Fazakerley)	687
103	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	686
104=	No Midfield	(JB Portwood)	685
104=	Ball Watchers	(J Murray)	685
104=	Neil Madrid	(N Ratcliffe)	685
104=	Agapanthus FC	(W Heslop)	685
104=	What Ford Splash	(N P Lewis)	685
104=	Nobby J	(J Brown)	685
110	Bacardi Boys	(M Woodley)	684
111=	Alice	(I Pigeon)	683
111=	Joking	(P Fellen)	683
113=	Fendon United	(E Cowen)	682
113=	Northern Lights	(C Wright)	682
113=	The Winners Vw	(Vikram Wadhwa)	682
116	Murrays Magicians	(M MacMillan)	681
117=	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	680
117=	Airstir	(Ilyle)	680
119=	Inter The Wallet	(M Ward)	679
119=	Wingless Wonders	(P Paynter)	679
119=	Simba's Dream	(Ms CA Kitchen)	679
119=	Back In Bristol	(D Stone)	679
119=	Ravn's Dream Team	(M Ravn)	679
124=	Come On You Rocks	0	678
124=	Lynne's Lions	(L Hiorns)	678
124=	Inverness Undecided	(M A Kennedy)	678
124=	Mars Fc	(M Baber)	678
124=	Ajk	(K Hughes)	678
124=	Nellies Heros	(I Fox)	678
130=	The Far Side	(C Hadfield)	677
130=	Triple Top Tan	(P Bailey)	677
130=	Team C	(A Lone)	677
130=	Kinky Imports	(S Fraser)	677
130=	John Hunt Taunton A	(J Hunt)	677
130=	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	677
136=	Shot On Sight 2	(P Goldstraw)	676
136=	Tiree Tabletoppers	(M A Kennedy)	676
138=	Star Chamber	(M MacMillan)	675
138=	Diplomatic Risk	(G Prichard)	675
138=	Byzantine Bricks	(S Houghton)	675
138=	Demolition Men	(J Murray)	675
142	Grafton Willows	(R J Brown)	674
143=	The Loggers	(C Wright)	673
143=	Guy's Next Bests	(G Bonello)	673
143=	Infinity George	(M Robson)	673
143=	Vat3	(K Howson)	673
147=	J D 3	(J Donaldson)	672
147=	Bung Ho!	(G Watson)	672
147=	Nobby 12	(J Brown)	672
150=	Langton Longballs	(M Ward)	671
150=	S Gill Taunton A	(S Gill)	671
150=	Animals	(L Clark)	671
153=	Cookies Gunners	(S Cook)	671
153=	The Instructors	(K Curnion)	670
153=	St Bartholomews	(J M Bartholomew)	670
156=	N S T Monkstone	(J Staszkiewicz)	670
156=	I Hate Alan Hansen	(V Cox)	669
156=	Daniels Seishans	(V Cox)	669
156=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	669
160=	J S August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	668
160=	Jacks Nightmare	(N J Lane)	668
160=	Caroline B	(A Luckhurst)	668
160=	Raj Is Back To Kill 6	(R Gohil)	668
160=	Tungston Town	(JW George)	668
165=	Patel One	(P Patel)	667
165=	Grimmers Army	(S Gray)	667
165=	Wassack	(M Hugill)	667
165=	Billy No Mates X I	(M Bremner)	667
165=	Havok	(P Williamson)	667
165=	Schoko Zoo	(P Roach)	667
165=	Lloydy's Barge	(D Goodwin)	667
165=	Nobby 14	(J Brown)	667
173=	Hannah's Heroes	(C Bennett)	666
173=	Drabs5	(D Edbrookestainer)	666
175=	Porcelain Dogs	(A Ibison)	665
175=	Bob Hope And No Hope	(T Blythe)	665
175=	Nobby 25	(J Brown)	665
178=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	664
178=	Its About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	664
178=	Flying Pigs	(M Macmillan)	664
178=	Buntys Buddies	(P Johnson)	664
178=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	664
178=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	664
184=	GR 2	(G Richards)	663
184=	Dimlymo Moscow	(D Wilson)	663
184=	Sucharita	(R Keenan)	663
187=	C U O K	(G Weiss)	662
187=	Lager Space FC	(D Mayall)	662
187=	Lesleys Legmen	(L Michaelis)	662
190=	Mapflappers	(P Reid)	661
190=	Inter-mountford	(A Mountford)	661
192=	Caroline C	(S A Luckhurst)	660
192=	Holstenites	(D Blair)	660
192=	Nomatas	(C Wilson)	660
192=	Buggie Nawies	(D Banks)	660
196=	Skyline Sizzlers	(T Gordon)	659
196=	Best Defence	(J Pregon)	659
198=	Gangsters	(A Lone)	658
198=	Dickseas Tigers	(T Rawlings)	658
198=	Steves Aces	(S Brook)	658
198=	No Help From Dad EC	(A Du Gay)	658
198=	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	658
198=	Buggsy's Boys	(Miss L Emery)	658
198=	Zando FC	(S Kirkwood)	658
198=	Dutch Courage	(R van Ruitenbeek)	658
206=	We Have No Bananas	(C Hall)	657
206=	Signus Alpha	(M Griffiths)	657
206=	Bubella	(T Wylie)	657
206=	Inter The Bin	(M Ward)	657
206=	Goaldiggers	(D Curzon)	657
206=	Armchair United	(S Milton)	657
206=	Fergies Cryers	(B Fazakerley)	657
213=	Rufus' Rednecks	(N Allan)	656
213=	More Cash Chief	(D Higgins)	656
213=	Millys Mops	(P Johnson)	656
216=	Caroline D	(A Luckhurst)	655
216=	Celtic Fowlers	(G Thomas)	655
216=	Langaller Lads	(N Finch)	655
216=	Slappy Chapples	(P Johnson)	655
216=	Dodds Aces	(C Dodd)	655
221=	Over Paid Losers	(J Line)	654
221=	Jones Boys One	(ML Jones)	654
221=	Don 3	(D Shuter)	654
221=	Entertainment U K	(P Wheatley)	654
221=	Twelve Just Men	(W Evans)	654
221=	Foxy	(M Fox)	654
227=	Alancia F C	(A Stillano)	653
227=	Kingkdadze I I	(M Dawe)	653
227=	Tobys Terrors 7	(P Wheatley)	653
227=	Kicking Arsenal	(R Broe)	653
227=	Totted Five	(E Kleby)	653
227=	Red Star Belgravia	(R Keenan)	653
233=	Robbies Rogues	(R Pressling)	652
233=	Oscar's All Stars	(Miss A White)	652
233=	Inter Outers	(R Johnson)	652
233=	Boyz 2	(D Patel)	652
237=	Zacks United	(E Zacks)	651
237=	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	651
237=	Ziggurat	(T Groome)	651
237=	Scotty's Puppets I I	(E G Ryan)	651
237=	Supersubs	(I Taylor)	651
242=	Son Can Be-Talking	(R Laskowski)	650
242=	Wolf Tones Utd	(T Prior)	650
242=	Raj Is Back To Kill 5	(R Gohil)	650
242=	Dwyer's Tipsters	(J Dwyer)	650
242=	Robztearm2	(R Preston)	649
247=	Daves First X I	(D Quibell)	649
247=	Nadar	(Mewlazski)	649
247=	Solid Saints	(P Riddout)	649
247=	Sad & Grim Team	(J Swain)	649

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option



They know it's all over for Peter Reid and Sunderland after losing their relegation struggle, but how about you?

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-12
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-1	+36
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	+1
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	+5	+31
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+17
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-2	-7
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	+10	+8
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	0	+30
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-28
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	3.00	-3	-9
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-42
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	-2
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	0	-41
10804	M Poom	Derby County	1.00	-5	-8
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
10903	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.50	-6	-2
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	-3	-59
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-3	-36
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	+1
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	0	-5
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-1	-30
11401	D Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	+4	-32
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-1	+40
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-19
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	+2	-20
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	-4	+10
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11703	J Nielsen	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	+5	+8
11802	R Van Der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0	+2
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-20
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	-1	-5
11904	M Schwarzer	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	-3
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	+2	-20
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	0	-18
12102	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	+15	+20
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-49
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	-9	-8
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	-78
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0	+29
12402	A Dibble	Rangers	3.50	-3	+7
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	-15
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	-5	-5
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	0	-28
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0	+2
12604	M Taylor	Southampton	1.00	-1	+7
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-1	-38
11803	T Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0	-11
12802	E Baardsen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	-3	-2
12901	L Mildosko	West Ham United	2.00	+2	-20
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	+4	+2
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	-4

DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+8
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	+38
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0	+49
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+43
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+67
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+50
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+4	+32
20402	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+30
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-2	+19
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	0	+38
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	+8	+31
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	-1	+30
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	-1	+6
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	0	-1
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-12
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	-10
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0	+6
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	-2	+8
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	0	+55
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	-2	+43
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	-1	+9
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-5
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	-1	-9
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	-1	-7
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0	+14
20603	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	0	-3
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	-1	+15
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	0	+25
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	0	+24
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	0	+7
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0	+12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	+4	+1
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+51
21502	A Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	0	+20
21504	G Halle	Leeds United	1.00	0	+40
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	+1	+6
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	+3	+10
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	-1	-1
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	-1
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0	-3
21703	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	-1	+45
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	-1	+39
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	+4	+34
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	+8	+7
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	-11
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-1
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	+2	+9
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	+2	+15
21906	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	1.50	-1	+1
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	+3	+9
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	+12	+20
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	+12	+36
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	+15	+38
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	+11	+22
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+10
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	-4	+5
22203	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+20
22204	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	-4
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0	-16
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	-14
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	+3	+48
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+22
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+25
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+7
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+6
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+3
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	-4
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	+6
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	0	+4
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	0	+5
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	0	+4
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	0	+7
22704	J Eriksson	Sunderland	1.50	0	-1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+7
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+12
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-2	+13
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-1	-4
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	0	+23
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	0	+3
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0	-4
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	0	+2
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+9
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	+4	+17
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	+4	+30
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	+4	+43

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	0	-6
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0	+2
30103	A Kombouare	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+4
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.00	-4	+39
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	+41
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	+50
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0	+14
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	+4	+44
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+75
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	+4	+32
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+1	+32
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+3
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+6
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	+7	+40
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	+7	+44
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	0	+22
30504	B O'Neil	Celtic	3.00	-4	0
30505	E Annoni	Celtic	3.00	0	+4
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	+1
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	0	+33
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	-1	0
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+5
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+16
30701	L Dalsh	Coventry City	2.00	0	+5
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	+2
30704	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	0	-2
30705	A Evtushok	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	0	-10
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30303	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0	-4
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	-2	+10
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	-5
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	-2	+52
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	0	-6
31002	I Den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	0	-19
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0	+12
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-1	+11
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	0	+6
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	0	+30
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	0	+34
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-3
32302	S Dennis	Hibernian	1.00	0	-19
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	+4	+17
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	+12
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	0	+42
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	-1	+29
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00	0	+23
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	+4	+17
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0	+8
31603	P Kamaark	Leicester City	0.50	+3	+7
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	-1	0
31605	M Elliott	Leicester City	1.50	+6	+10
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+24
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	-1	+29
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	-1	+12
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0	+26
31706	B Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	0	+3
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	-3	+11
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	+6	+39
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50	+4	+25
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	+1	+7
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-6
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-10
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
31905	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	+1	+8
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	+3	-1
32002	M Van Der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	+6	+24
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	+8	+26
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	+11	+32
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	-4	+1
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-4	+9
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-5
32303	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-13
32304	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-11
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	-1	+56
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	+1	+24
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+1	+40
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	0	+18
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+15
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+25
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	-18
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	0	+7
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	-1	+2
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0	+3
32605	U Van Gobbel	Southampton	1.50	0	-9
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0	+12
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0	+14
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+18
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1	+22
31702	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	-1	+7
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+17
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32807	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	-1	+4
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	+3	+17
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+10
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	+3	+6
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	+3	+7
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	+4	+10
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	-2
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+16
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+16
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	+1	+43
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+24
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	+1	+10
40104	I Kirlakov	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+28
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+27
40201	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	+1	+45
40202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+57
40203	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0	+26
40204	G Helder	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
40205	I Selley	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
40208	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.00	+1	+41
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0	+7
40210	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	0	+15
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+34
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	+2	+51
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	+2	+44
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+1
40306	S Curcic	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+24
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	+40
40402	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+29
40403	G Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+5	+35
40404	B McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+3	+24
40405	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+3	+47
40406	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+1	+9
40407	G Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+16
40408	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40409	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	0	+22
40502	A Thom	Celtic	2.50	+1	+32
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	+4	+39
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	+3	+29
40505	P Di Canio	Celtic	3.00	0	+60
40506	D Hannah	Celtic	1.50	+4	+19
40507	P O'Donnell	Celtic	2.50	0	+11
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+9
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	+3	+45
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	0	+39
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+21
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	+3	+60
40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
40610	P Hughes	Chelsea	2.00	0	+8
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+32
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+1	+62
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+1	+33
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	0	+35
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+36
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	+2	+36
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	+1	+53
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+5
40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	+1	+32
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	+1	+28
40805	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	0	+12
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	+1	+42
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	+1	+39
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	+2	+33
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	+1	+67
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
42003	J Dolan	Dundee United	1.00	+1	+32
42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	+2	+21
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	0	+26
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+3	+48
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	0	+35
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	+1	+54
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	+1	+30
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	+1	+68
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	+31
41106	T Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+11
41108	C Thomsen	Everton	2.00	+1	+15
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+7
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	0	+34
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	+2	+43
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+10
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+26
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+47
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+11
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	+1	+58
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	0	+32
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	0	+34
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	+1	+47
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	0	+19
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	0	+19
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	0	+8
41510	M Jackson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+10
41601	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	+3	+37
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	+1	+37
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	0	+21
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	+1	+4
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	0	+43
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	+2	+59
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	+2	+48
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	+4	+32
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+56
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	+2	+39
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+31
41801	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00	0	+43
41802	R Keane	Manchester United	4.50	+3	+23
41803	D Beckham	Manchester United	4.00	+4	+62
41804	N Butt	Manchester United	3.50	+2	+37
41806	B McClair	Manchester United	1.50	+2	+11
41807	T Cooke	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester United	1.00	0	+1
41809	S Davies	Manchester United	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50	+2	+19
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00	+3	+30
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	+6	+43
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	+8	+70
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	+6	+36
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+6
41906	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00	+3	+39
41908	C Liddle	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+6
41909	B Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+1
41910	P Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50	+4	+26
42001	C McCart	Motherwell	2.00	0	+16
42002	J Philliben	Motherwell	1.00	0	+14
42004	J Hendry	Motherwell	0.75	0	+4
42005	S Valikarri	Motherwell	3.00	+2	+11
42101	D Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50	0	+24
42102	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.50	0	+47
42103	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50	+2	+28
42104	D Batty	Newcastle United	3.00	+4	+32
42105	L Clark	Newcastle United	3.00	+2	+24
42107	D Hamilton	Newcastle United	1.50	0	0
42201	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50	+1	+37
42202	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+2
42203	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+1	+18
42204	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+1	+22
42205	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00	+1	+32
42301	T Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00	0	+33
42302	D Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00	+1	+47
41304	A Millen	Raith Rovers	0.50	+1	+26
42304	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+26
42401	P Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00	+3	+61
42402	B Laudrup	Rangers	5.00	+4	+75
42403	S McCall	Rangers	2.00	0	+9
42404	T Steven	Rangers	1.50	0	+8
42405	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	+2	+61
42501	R Blinker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+18
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+1	+52
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
42506	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42507	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42508	S Oakes	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+11
42509	W Collins	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+13
42510	O Trustfull	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+17
42511	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	+1	+41
42512	D Billington	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42601	J Magilton	Southampton	2.50	+1	+46
42604	B Venison	Southampton	1.00	0	0
42606	D Hughes	Southampton	0.50	0	+1
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	+1	+25
42607	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	+1	+32
42609	M Robinson	Southampton	0.25	0	+6
42611	E Berkovic	Southampton	1.00	0	+33

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	0	+12
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+7
50103	B Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	+3	+41
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+5	+71
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	+3	+47
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50206	N Anelka	Arsenal	3.00	+1	+1
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50	+1	+79
50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	5.00	+1	+46
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+11
50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+1	+56
50404	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+42
50405	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+2	+5
50406	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	0
50407	P Pedersen	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+9
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	6.00	+4	+92
50303	T Johnson	Celtic	4.00	+4	+24
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	5.00	0	+44
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	+1	+57
50605	M Stein	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50606	G Zola	Chelsea	5.00	0	+51
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	-1	+41
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	+3	+46
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00	+1	+11
52105	D Huckerby	Coventry City	0.50	+1	+37
50801	D Sturridge	Derby County	3.00	0	+50
50802	M Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+7
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	+3	+42
50804	R Willems	Derby County	1.00	+1	+19
50903	K Olafsson	Dundee United	3.00	+1	+21
51001	A Moore	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+14
51002	S Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+26
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	+1	+47
51901	N Barmby	Everton	4.00	+3	+47
51102	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	0	+38
51105	M Branch	Ever

RACING: DUBAI OPERATION LOOKS TO YORK RUNNERS TO IMPROVE ON EARLY DISAPPOINTMENTS

Godolphin seeks to revive fortunes

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

IT MAY not have quite the news value of man bites dog, but the disappointing performance of the Godolphin horses, notably in the classics, is beginning to make Sheikh Mohammed and his team decidedly uncomfortable. If the poor form continues at York this week they may start to worry for the first time since the Dubai racing venture was established.

"We have had a wobbly start," Simon Crisford, the Godolphin racing manager, said yesterday. Shamikh and Moonlight Paradise finished nearer last than first in the 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket, and Nightbird and Bahamian Bounty fared no better in the French equivalents at the weekend.

"We are sending out the big guns at York and will be looking for results," he added. "Some people have been questioning whether our horses are healthy but, healthwise, there is nothing to indicate the horses are below form."

The Knavesmire is one of Godolphin's best hunting grounds — seven winners and three placed efforts from just 14 runners — and there will be no excuses if that record is not enhanced this week. Horses with proven form who have been pleasing at home, such as Classic Cliche, who attempts to win the Yorkshire Cup for the second year running on Thursday, should give a true guide as to whether all is well. "If they don't perform up to expectations we will start to ask some serious questions," Crisford added.

The first test for Godolphin will come today in the Tattersalls Musidora Stakes when Entice runs for the first time in the royal blue livery. Trained last season by Barry Hills, when she carried the silks of Sheikh Mohammed's Darley Stud operation, the Selkirk filly progressed with every run and beat Fahris on her final start at Pontefract.

The value of that performance was underlined when the runner-up won the Feilden Stakes at Newmarket. However, the form choice in the race is Reams Of Verse, who finished a respectable sixth in the 1,000 Guineas behind her stablemate, Sleepytime, having won three of here four starts last term, including the Fillies' Mile at Ascot. The Nureyev filly should relish today's step up in trip and the easy ground.

MARTIN LYNCH



Reams Of Verse, sixth in the 1,000 Guineas on her reappearance, contests the Tattersalls Musidora Stakes at York today

Etoile is another who will appreciate the underfoot conditions and increased test of stamina, while the lightly raced Noisette and Society Rose are open to improvement. However, **Reams Of Verse** is the class act.

Angus-G makes some appeal in the opening Yorkshire Life Magazine Handicap. Mary Reveley's progressive five-year-old was always travelling like a winner at Newmarket four weeks ago and, despite being hampered two furlongs out, still won cosily.

Nap: ANGUS-G
(2.05 York)
Next best: Flirting Around
(4.40 York)

A 5lb rise in the handicap should not stop him winning again at the expense of Remaadi Sun and Temptress.

The Shepherd Trophy Rated Stakes (2.35) is difficult for backers with a field of largely unexposed three-year-olds, several of whom can be expected to improve significantly now they are tackling 1¼ miles for the first time. Noble Dane, Silverani and Sugarfoot have sound claims but **Blue River** is just preferred after a fine effort at Newmarket on his seasonal reappearance.

Double Splendour has won first time out for the last two years, goes well at York and is the percentage call in the Stanley Racing Sprint (3.40). Hoh Returns and Yorkie George head the list of dangers.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

YORK

THUNDERER

2.05 Remaadi Sun
2.35 THE FLY (nap)
3.10 Entice
3.40 Double Splendour
4.10 Balance The Books
4.40 Flirting Around

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.10 REAMS OF VERSE.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.35 Delilah.
3.10 REAMS OF VERSE (nap): 4.40 Zinzari.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 — B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J H jumps. F H flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.05 YORKSHIRE LIFE MAGAZINE HANDICAP C4
(£7,375: 1m 3f 195yd) (12 runners)

101	(7)	12/00-	ZARALASKA 199 (D,S) (Fittocks Stud Ltd) L Cumani 6-8-13	R Ffrench (5)	89
102	(9)	1223-1	ANGUS-G 27 (D,F,S) (W Gloyd) Mrs M Reveley 5-8-11	K Darley	90
103	(10)	/100-0	PROSPECTOR'S COVE 45 (S,S) (Sussex Racing) J Pearce 4-9-9	S Burchell	92
104	(11)	-04305	HAZARD A GUESS 8 (C,D,F,G,S) (Corinthian Ltd) D Nicholls 7-9-7	Alex Greaves	92
105	(3)	5110-8	BERLIN BLUE 17 (D,F,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Watts 4-9-3	L Dettori	90
106	(6)	40-002	REMAADI SUN 8 (V,CD,F) (T Burke) M Usher 5-9-1	J Quinn	89
107	(4)	1340-	JAZZ KING 266 (D,F) (Aldercombe Manor Racing) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-1	K Fallon	88
108	(6)	60-004	SWAN HUNTER 12 (S) (A Gosse) D Cudgeon 4-8-6	D O'Donohoe (3)	87
109	(5)	405	DURAID 27 (A Sudden) D Smith 5-8-6	A Culhane	90
110	(12)	203-04	TEMPTRESS 9 (D,F,S) (P Barratt) J L Harris 4-8-4	D Holland	87
111	(2)	00-431	AUGUSTAN 7 (CD,F,S) (R Jones) S Gollings 6-7-10 (5ex)	L Charnock	93
112	(1)	5-0002	AFRICAN SUN 7 (N Fletcher) M Chapman 4-7-10	P Fessey (5)	75

Long handicap: Augustan 7-8, African Sun 6-4.
BETTING: 5-2 Angus-G, 4-1 Remaadi Sun, 6-1 Hazard A Guess, 8-1 Duraid, Temptress, 10-1 Augustan, Berlin Blue, Zaralaska, 16-1 Jazz King, 20-1 Swan Hunter, 25-1 Prospector's Cove, 66-1 African Sun.
1996: REMAADI SUN 4-8-10 R Street (10-1) M Usher 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANGUS-G beat Galapino 1¼l in 18-runner handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good) with HAZARD A GUESS (5lb better off) 3¼l 3rd and REMAADI SUN (6lb better off) 5l 7th. REMAADI SUN neck 2nd of 9 to Polar Champ in handicap at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to soft) with HAZARD A GUESS about 6l 5th, DURAID about 16l 5th of 10 to Kyle Rhea in maiden at Pontefract (1m 2f, good to firm). TEMPTRESS about 16l 4th of 13 to Valedictory in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good). AUGUSTAN beat Taqaato head in handicap at Doncaster (1m 4f, good). AFRICAN SUN 11 2nd of 16 to Step N Go in handicap at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good).
Selection: HAZARD A GUESS

2.35 SHEPHERD TROPHY RATED HANDICAP C4
(3-Y-O fillies: £13,442: 1m 2f 85yd) (13 runners)

201	(3)	3522-3	CAVIAR ROYALE 24 (F) (M Butler's 5th Family Settlement) T Barron 9-7	J Carroll	85
202	(4)	3615-4	BALI PARADISE 32 (F,S) (Al Maktoum Partnership) P Cole 9-6	T Quinn	98
203	(12)	0114-	THE FLY 243 (BF,S) (Mrs J Corbett) B Hills 9-2	M Hills	90
204	(13)	1-34	SUGARFOOT 9 (F) (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 8-1	K Darley	92
205	(1)	1155-5	BLUE RIVER 26 (F,S) (M Legge) T Mills 8-13	M J Kinane	93
206	(5)	21-001	POLAR FLIGHT 9 (S) (The Middleham Pearls) M Johnston 8-13	J Weaver	95
207	(10)	31080-	MARATHON MAID 206 (S) (J Sieghorsinn & Sons Ltd) R Fahey 8-12	A Culhane	86
208	(11)	22-1	SILVERANI 28 (F) (P Silver) L Cumani 8-12	L Dettori	94
209	(8)	3-23	DELILAH 13 (BF) (Highclere Racing Ltd) M Stoute 8-12	J Reid	89
210	(2)	10-204	LOVE HAS NO PRIDE 8 (C,E,S) (Miss L Regis) B Hanson 8-10	Dane O'Neill	88
211	(6)	1452-2	MR BOMBASTIQUE 45 (BF,F) (K al-Said) B Hills 8-10	D Holland	93
212	(7)	503-40	STONE FLOWER 28 (F) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-8	R Havlin (3)	95
213	(9)	31-4	NOBLE DANE 25 (S) (The Brother Pims) P Harris 8-4	Pat Eddery	83

Long handicap: Noble Dane 8-3.
BETTING: 5-1 Silverani, 7-1 The Fly, 8-1 Delilah, 7-1 Mr Bombastique, 8-1 Bali Paradise, Polar Flight, 10-1 Blue River, Love Has No Pride, 12-1 others.
1996: DOMBEY 9-2 T Sprake (9-4 jf-fav) R Charlton 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BALI PARADISE beat Jeffrey Aesthetical 1¾l in handicap at Newbury (7f, good to firm). THE FLY beat Demolition Man 3l in handicap at Newcastle (5f, good). BLUE RIVER about 14l 5th of 19 to River's Source in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm) with POLAR FLIGHT (2lb better off) 6¾l 13th and LOVE HAS NO PRIDE (3lb better off) 9¼l 17th. SILVERANI 9¼l to Grousing (2lb) in maiden at Ripon (1m, good to firm). MR BOMBASTIQUE neck 2nd of 7 to Mister Pink in handicap at Haydock (1m 2f 120yd, soft). NOBLE DANE 10¾l 4th of 18 to Amid Alhadiq in handicap at Newbury (1m, good to firm).
Selection: NOBLE DANE

3.10 TATTERSALLS MUSIDORA STAKES C4
(Group III: 3-Y-O: £26,048: 1m 2f 85yd) (10 runners)

301	(9)	2111-6	REAMS OF VERSE 9 (F,C,S) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 8-11	K Fallon	98
302	(1)	0-2	ALCALALI 18 (BF) (L Hicks) P Kelleway 8-8	K Darley	80
303	(6)	221-10	CALYPSO GRANT 25 (S) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 8-8	Pat Eddery	94
304	(10)	2202-4	DAME LAURA 28 (F) (A Muntrasell) M Haynes 8-8	C Rutter	94
305	(5)	011-	ENTICE 204 (S,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-8	L Dettori	89
306	(8)	0313-	ETOILE 198 (F) (D S Racing) P Chapple-Hyam 8-8	J Reid	85
307	(3)	5550-3	FRENCH MIST 8 (Mrs A Upstell) C Brittain 8-8	B Doyle	72
308	(7)	0-1	NOISETTE 13 (F) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-8	R Cochrane	93
309	(4)	1-	SOCIETY ROSE 202 (F) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 8-8	M J Kinane	70
310	(2)	136-43	VAGABOND CHANTEUSE 9 (S) (W Green) T Ellerington 8-8	T Quinn	90

BETTING: 7-1 Reams Of Verse, 4-1 Noisette, 5-1 Entice, 8-1 Society Rose, 10-1 Etoile, 14-1 others.
1996: MAGNIFICENT STYLE 8-8 M J Kinane (5-2) H Cecil 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

REAMS OF VERSE beat Khassah 1¼l in pairs race at Fillies Mile at Ascot (1m, good). CALYPSO GRANT beat Lyrility 1¾l in listed race at Kempton (1m, good) on penultimate start. ENTICE beat Fahris neck in 7-runner listed race at Pontefract (1m, good). ETOILE beat My Valentine 2½l in conditions stakes at Newbury (7f, good to firm) with ENTICE 5l 7th. NOISETTE beat Flamboyance 2½l in conditions stakes at Ascot (1m, good to firm). SOCIETY ROSE beat Kipplow 4l in maiden at Newcastle (7f, good to firm).
Selection: REAMS OF VERSE

3.40 STANLEY RACING SPRINT TROPHY RATED HANDICAP (£11,376: 6f) C4
(16 runners)

401	(1)	060-51	CYRANO'S LAD 9 (CD,F,S) (M Foster) C Dwyer 8-9-7	K Fallon	97
402	(14)	033-02	DASHING BLUE 14 (CD,F,S) (Mrs D Allen) I Balding 4-9-6	L Dettori	97
403	(8)	050-00	SEA DANE 24 (D,F) (Carat Gold Connections) P Harris 4-9-4	M J Kinane	97
404	(6)	5-3304	KING OF PERU 9 (D,F,G) (L Pusl) A Jarvis 4-9-3	W J O'Connor	93
405	(4)	120220	CRETAN GIFT 13 (S,D,F,S) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 6-9-2	A Daly (5)	93
406	(15)	23240-	UNCONDITIONAL LOVE 227 (F) (Mrs H Conroy) M Johnston 4-9-2	J Weaver	91
407	(5)	050-46	WESTCOURT MAGIC 24 (D,F,G) (K Hodgson) M W Easterby 4-8-2	T Quinn	95
408	(10)	12342-	DOUBLE SPLENDOUR 213 (CD,F,S,S) (Yorkshire RC Dir) P Feilden 7-9-1	K Darley	93
409	(13)	00-032	WORLD PREMIER 13 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 4-9-1	B Doyle	88
410	(2)	11501-	BOLLIN JOANNE 213 (CD,F,S) (Lady Westbrook) T Easterby 4-8-13	G Parkin (5)	93
411	(9)	315/01	ZUHAIR 12 (D,F,S) (Clayton Bagley Pims Ltd) D McCain 4-8-8	J Reid	92
412	(15)	2000-6	SAMWAR 13 (D,S) (Maygate Ltd) Miss G Kelleway 5-8-8	R Cochrane	96
413	(12)	1303-8	HOH RETURNS 25 (D,F) (D Allport) M Bell 4-8-8	M Fenton	93
414	(7)	634-380	TUMBLEWEED RIDGE 13 (S,F,S) (Tumbleweed Pims) B Meehan 4-8-7	Pat Eddery	95
415	(11)	010-00	CHARLIE SILLETT 13 (D,F,S) (J Silver) B Hills 5-8-7	R Mullen (5)	95
416	(3)	01134-0	YORKIE GEORGE 25 (D,G,S) (M Dawson) L Cumani 3-7-11	R Havlin (5)	92

Long handicap: Charlie Sillett 8-0.
BETTING: 5-1 Double Splendour, 7-1 Yorkie George, 8-1 Cyrano's Lad, Tumbleweed Ridge, World Premier, 10-1 Bollin Joanne, Dashing Blue, Samwar, 12-1 King Of Peru, 14-1 Charlie Sillett, Hoh Returns, 16-1 others.
1996: JAYANIPEE 5-8-8 Martin Dwyer (11-2) I Balding 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

CYRANO'S LAD beat How Long 1¼l in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good) with KING OF PERU (6lb better off) 1¾l 4th, DASHING BLUE neck 2nd to Bandit in conditions stakes at Bath (6f, good to firm), CRETAN GIFT 2½l 2nd to Soviet Star in conditions stakes at Ripon (6f, good to firm) with WESTCOURT MAGIC (2lb better off) 3¼l 5th and Sea Dane (5lb better off) 12¾l 8th, WORLD PREMIER 21¼l 2nd of 25 in Tregarno in Victoria Cup at Ascot (7f, good to firm), TUMBLEWEED RIDGE (4lb better off) 9¼l 10th, CRETAN GIFT (4lb better off) 21¼l 11th, SAMWAR (5lb better off) 2¾l 13th and CHARLIE SILLETT (2lb worse off) 8l 22nd. BOLLIN JOANNE beat DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (13lb better off) 2l in handicap over course and distance (good) with CYRANO'S LAD (11lb better off) 11½l 8th.
Selection: CRETAN GIFT (nap)

4.10 EBF AER LINGUS LEEDS-BRADFORD AIRPORT NOVICE STAKES
(2-Y-O fillies: £5,848: 5f) (5 runners)

501	(4)	1	EASTERN LYRIC 8 (D,F) (R Meredith) J Berry 8-0	K Darley	91
502	(2)	033125	RILEY BRIGG 7 (D,S) (Dalesmyre Racing) W Kemp 8-10	K Fallon	94
503	(3)		BALANCE THE BOOKS (M Schell) R Hannon 8-8	Pat Eddery	—
504	(5)		CHILD PRODIGY (R Sangster) J Watts 8-8	J Reid	—
505	(1)	2	INDIAN SILVER 8 (A Andrews) M Channon 8-8	T Quinn	(5)

BETTING: 7-4 Balance The Books, 2-1 Eastern Lyric, 9-2 Indian Silver, 13-2 Child Prodigy, 10-1 Riley Brigg.
1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

EASTERN LYRIC beat Fast Tempo 3½l in maiden at Warwick (5f, firm); RILEY BRIGG beat Ricky Wheely 2½l in novice at Hamilton (5f, soft). BALANCE THE BOOKS (noted Mar 10, cost 44,000gns), half-sister by Elmaamul to 1¼-mile winner Kilcroft, better off) 11½l 8th. CHILD PRODIGY (Feb 5, 32,000gns), half-sister by Belfast Rock to Blue Bit, 1m 6f winner; dam fm 1¼-mile winner. INDIAN SILVER 2½l 2nd to Another Fantasy in maiden at Kempton (5f, good). Selection: RILEY BRIGG

4.40 NEWTON INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £7,560: 1m 5f 194yd) (5 runners)

601	(2)	11-5	WINDSOR CASTLE 10 (F) (H H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 9-5	T Quinn	98
602	(4)	204-42	FLIRTING AROUND 6 (Maktoum al-Maktoum) M Stoute 8-12	K Fallon	89
603	(5)	25	SPARTAN ROYALE 11 (C Otley) C Brittain 8-12	M Roberts	85
604	(1)	5-2	ZINZARI 21 (Equite Plating) D Loder 8-12	L Dettori	81
605	(3)	6	AUTUMN TIME 28 (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-7	J Reid	83

BETTING: 2-1 Flirting Around, 5-2 Zinzari, 7-2 Windsor Castle, 5-1 Autumn Time, 8-1 Spartan Royale.
1996: ATRENY 8-11 W Day (2-1) J Pearce 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

WINDSOR CASTLE beat Allende Desire 1¾l in gallop also at Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm). FLIRTING AROUND 2¾l 2nd to Perfect Passion in handicap at Chester (1m 4f 60yd, soft). SPARTAN ROYALE 19¾l 2nd to Tazzera in maiden at Leicester (1m 2f, good to soft). ZINZARI 7¾l 2nd to Will You Dance in maiden at Pontefract (1m 2f, good to firm). AUTUMN TIME 14¾l 6th to Street General in maiden at Newmarket (1m 4f, good). Selection: FLIRTING AROUND

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
S bin Suroor	7	14	50.0	L Dettori	40	164	24.4
H Cecil	23	82	28.0	M J Kinane	15	76	19.7
M Stoute	23	114	20.2	Pat Eddery	32	181	17.7
J Gosden	18	90	20.0	J Reid	20	141	14.2
P Chapple-Hyam	8	47	17.0	R Cochrane	13	105	12.4
T Barron	7	43	16.3	Alex Greaves	3	26	11.5

CHEPSTOW: Trainers: D Nicholson, 16 winners from 57 runners, 28.1%; M Pipe, 56 from 218, 25.7%; P Nicholls, 15 from 69, 21.7%; J Old, 8 from 37, 21.6%; R Rowe, 7 from 34, 20.6%; D Burchell, 5 from 29, 17.2%. J Jenks, 4 from 27, 14.8%. Jockeys: A P McCoy, 25 winners from 90 rides, 27.8%; D O'Sullivan, 5 from 21, 23.8%; G Tormey, 5 from 24, 20.8%; S Burrough, 3 from 16, 18.8%; D Burchell, 5 from 27, 18.5%; M A Fitzgerald, 13 from 78, 16.7%; W Marston, 10 from 63, 15.9%.

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Gallops attract scrutiny

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

THE controversy arising from Entrepreneur's unpublicised racecourse gallop before the 2,000 Guineas has prompted Racecourse Holdings Trust (RHT) to issue guidelines on the subject to each of its 12 tracks. Among other conditions, all RHT-owned venues will in future insist on the right to identify participating horses to the public and press.

Entrepreneur, whose progress towards the 2,000 Guineas was closely guarded by his trainer, Michael Stoute, completed his preparation in an early-morning gallop at Sandown Park seven days before the race. He went on to land the Newmarket classic on his seasonal debut and that gallop afforded the only realistic opportunity for an advance sighting of the colt.

Had Entrepreneur's presence been publicised, he would have attracted a sizeable gathering to witness his work — which was unusually sanctioned on the morning of a big race. However, the executive at Sandown, which operates under the RHT banner, maintained it was unaware that Entrepreneur was among two horses for which galloping permission was sought by Stoute. The trainer did not identify the horses concerned; nor was he asked by the executive, which was preoccupied with arrangements for the Whitbread Gold Cup.

David Hillyard, managing director of RHT, said of the measures: "They should avoid a repeat of the Entrepreneur situation, which we felt was unfortunate. Within the group, we have also endorsed the position that racecourse gallops are to remain the exception rather than the rule, and should normally take place after racing, not before."

Stoute's motive in preparing Entrepreneur away from the media's gaze had its roots in the considerable hype surrounding the horse. However, such secrecy does not tally with racing's initiative to project itself more favourably.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

GROSVENOR CASINOS' DANTE STAKES
York, tomorrow

GUIDE TO THE PRICES

	Ladbrokes
Benny The Dip	7-2
Desert Story	4-1
Apprehension	9-2
Medaaly	5-1
Yorkshire	5-1
Musaisai	8-1
Crimson Tide	10-1
Kingfisher Mill	10-1
Monza	10-1

THE Grosvenor Casinos Dante Stakes, run at York tomorrow, has attracted a small but select field. Three times in the last 12 years, the winner of the Dante has gone on to win the Derby, and this year's contest has every chance of throwing up a worthy rival to Entrepreneur, who dominates the betting on the Epsom classic.

The news yesterday that Benny The Dip, the Dante winner, Fahris, has sinus problems may further ease the Derby pulls further pressure on the Dante to produce plausible contender.

Desert Story, trained by Jeremy Noseda, for Khalifa Al Maktoum, was not disgraced when runner-up to the stable companion in the 2,000 Guineas but Apprehension, Medaaly, Yorkshire and Kingfisher Mill are unproven at the highest level and will have to make considerable improvement to be seriously considered.

Benny The Dip turned in a fine reappearance when running away with the Sandown, and, a lazy workout, come on for the run. That form third, Silver Patriarch, Trial on Saturday, Medaaly have no excuses when beaten just under 2½ lengths by Medaaly in last season's Racecourse Post Trophy and is comparatively lightly Medaaly, a half-brother to the useful Charnwood Forest, looked as though he would be better suited by further than mile as a juvenile and can provide the Godolphin team with a welcome winner. MEDAALY has solid form, Frankie Dettori on board, and is over-priced at 5-1 to put himself into the Derby picture.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Redcar

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.15 (5f) 1, ONE SINGER (J Weaver, 7-3); 2, Rusty Babe (J Fortune, 6-4 fav); 3, Miss Puck (K Darley, 11-2). ALSO RAN, 6 Sandmoor Tartan, 8 King Of Dance (4th), 14 Ngaere Princess, 20 Imperial Honey (5th), 25 Leather And Scrim (6th), 33 Aspirilla, 9 ran. 2¼l, 2½l, 1¼l, 2½l. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £5.00: £1.90, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £3.90. Trio: £4.60. CSF: £8.60.

2.45 (6f) 1, RIVER TERN (J Weaver, 6-1); 2, Palo Blanco (J Fortune, 10-11 fav); 3, Spotted Eagle (J Carroll, 20-1). ALSO RAN, 7 Double Oscar, Keen To Please, 8 Sandown (5th), 20 Hi Mujtahid, Napoleon's Return, 25 Not A Lot (6th), 33 Born A Lady (4th), 50 Assignment, Forecast, Monkey Face Ohief Lad, Ragazza, 15 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 3l. M J Bradley at Cheadle. Tote: £9.50: £2.10, £1.20, £4.00. DF: £8.30. Trio: £51.90. CSF: £10.82.

3.15 (1m) 1, CIROLE (Kim Tinkler, 50-1); 2 Mezzoramio (Jo Hunnam, 9-1); 3, Jack Flush (Claire West, 12-1). 4, Murphy's Gold, Alan Greaves, 6-1) ALSO RAN, 9-2 fav Sergeant, 13-2 Cee-Jay-Ay, 8 Fisorster, 9 Spanish Verdict (6th), 10 Advance East, 12 Mustang (5th), Return To Brighton, 16 Active, 25 Champagne N Dreams, 33 Our Tom, 50 Bad News, Rinus Magic, Take Horace, 17 ran. 1½l, ¾l, nk, 3½l, 6l. G Holmes at Pickering. Tote: £3.10: £1.10, £2.40, £2.30. DF: £12.90. Trio: £21.90. CSF: £21.05. Tricast: £79.83.

Placepot: £34.30. Quadpot: £18.30.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.00 (7f) 1, DESERT INVADER (P Fessey, 2-1); 2, Bold Aristocrat (F Lynch, 5-1); 3, Young Annabel (G Faulkner, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 14 Commin' Up (4th), 16 Appeal Again, 20 Aquado (r), 25 Gunner B Special (5th), 33 Samcolom (5th), Sylvania Lights, 9 ran. Hd, 5l, 1¼l, 3½l, 10l. D Chapman at York. Tote: £4.20: £1.00, £1.80, £1.95. DF: £4.90. Trio: £1.60. CSF: £11.57.

2.30 (1m 6f) 1, KALAMAYA (N Day, 9-1); 2, High Five (G Bardwell, 7-2 jf-fav); 3, Stalled (D Holland, 12-1); 4, Hasta La Vista (G Parker, 7-2 jf-fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Tiapheno, 13-2 Cohiba, 8 Carrolls Marc (6th), Phanly Dancer, 10 Jump The Lights, 14 Precedency, 16 Swandale Flyer, 20 El Nido, Sushi Bar, Tip It In, 25 Another Quarter (5th), 50 Glowing Mandie, 16 ran. 12l, hd, 6l, 5l, 12l. J Glover at Worksop. Tote: £17.90: £3.30, £2.20, £2.30, £1.10. DF: £62.50. Trio: £62.50. CSF: £44.31. Tricast: £393.34.

3.00 (7f) 1, JIGSAW BOY (D Harrison, Evens fav); 2, Komaseph (T G McLaughlin, 25-1); 3, Kustom Kit (Kassio (S Webster, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Bissenter (5th), 6 Dashing Dancer (6th), 10 Medland (4th), 14 Spanish Shopper, 25 Little Popcorn, 40 Verno, 9 ran. 6l, ½l, 3l, 1l, 3½l. P Murphy at Bridlington. Tote: £1.90: £1.10, £9.70, £2.20. DF: £57.30. Trio: £161.80 (part won. Pool of £100.27 carried forward to 3.40 at York today). CSF: £35.46.

3.30 (1m) 1, QUEENS STROLLER (J Bramhill, 14-1); 2, Bas Nanda (G Bardwell, 12-1); 3, David James' Girl (R Winston, 4-1 fav). ALSO RAN, 9-2 Cats Bottom, 7 Hoh Flyer, Lacherie, 8 Best Of All, Sir Garden (6th), 10 People Direct, 16 Healthyards Lady (5th), 20 Down The Yard, Hadadabble, Jilly Beveled, 25 Elpotula (4th), 40 Silver Moon, 15 ran. ¾l, nk, 1l, ¾l, R Peacock at Tetbury. Tote: £10.20: £5.60, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £56.90. Trio: £150.00. CSF: £162.96. Tricast: £766.47.

4.00 (5f) 1, MALOZZA (J F Egan, 12-1); 2, Charities Lad (P Bloomfield, 7-4 fav); 3, Mirasita (M Fenton, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Chalmano, 11-2 Miss Side Monkey (6th), 8 Berstock (5th), 12 Dance Lotus, Heavenly Falls, 16 Tall's Times, 20-Ute Sentence, 33 Eboyzanda (4th), Kagsi, Margaret's Dancer, 13 ran. Nk, 1¾l, 6l, hd, 3½l. P Evans at Weltpool. Tote: £21.30, £6.10, £1.20, £3.60. DF: £18.40. Trio: £28.90. CSF: £33.86.

4.30 (5f) 1, PERSIAN FORTUNE (D Sweeney, 14-1); 2, Ellenbrook (P Fessey, 5-1); 3, Beechwood Quest (M Fenton, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Patsy Cubsyth (5th), 3 My Bet (4th), 6 Meadelay, 14 Chardonia (6th), 7 ran. Nk, 3l, ¾l, 8l, 2l. W G M Turner at Sherborne. Tote: £13.40: £2.60, £2.20. DF: £29.80. CSF: £74.00.

5.00 (1m 3f) 1, EVEZIO RUFO (P Roberts, 14-1); 2, Kilnamanya Girl (D Sweeney, 9-2 fav), 3, Heights Of Fame (Iona Wands, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Diego (4th), 7 Carol Again (6th), Happy Brave, Stretching, 10 Evaporato, 12 Dubs Boy, Sala Dancer, 16 Burrenzie, Mowtaze, 20 Perfect Angel, 50 Burning Cost (5th), 14 ran. Nk, 1¼l, 2½l, 13l, 1¼l. N Littmoden at Wolverhampton. Tote: £12.30: £2.40, £2.60, £2.10. DF: £22.20. Trio: £122.40. CSF: £74.41. Tricast: £516.63.

Placepot: £42.20. Quadpot: £33.80.

Windsor

Going: soft

6.00 (1m 67yd) 1, Scathebury (D Holland, 9-2 fav); 2, Lucky (9-1); 3, Mad Alex (33-1). 18 ran. 1¾l, ½l. K Burke. Tote: £4.40: £1.80, £6.50, £5.60. DF: £73.50. Trio: £178.60. CSF: £41.85.

6.30 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, Right Man (A Clark, 9-1); 2, Krosno, (7-1 jf-fav); 3, Dizzy Tilly (33-1); 4, Sudest (7-1 jf-fav) Alldonado 7-1 jf-fav, 20 ran. 3½l, sl. G Lewis. Tote: £8.80: £2.00, £2.10, £10.10, £2.40. DF: £31.20. CSF: £60.42. Tricast: £1,864.18.

Towcester

Going: good to soft, soft in places

5.45 (3m hdle) 1, The Flying Doctor (W McFarland, 15-8 jf-fav); 2, Sterling Fellow (16-8 jf-fav); 3, Summer Vila (4-1). 7 ran. 11l, 15l. G Balding. Tote: £2.60: £1.60, £1.50. DF: £2.10. CSF: £5.25.

6.15 (2m 110yd chl) 1, Not My Line (Mr A Sansome, 16-1); 2, My Young Man (11-4), 3, Nechemeko (6-1) Yqaem 2-1 fav, 18 ran. 8l, 10l. A Mongan. Tote: £24.10: £4.50, £1.70, £3.90. DF: £70.60. Trio: £70.50. CSF: £52.16.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Chepstow: 1.50 Minnsorn, 3.55 Red Tol Yorks 2.05 Remaadi Sun.

POINT-TO-POINT DETAILS

COTSWOLD VALE FARMERS (Maisemore Park): Hunt: 1, Glen Osa (D Duggan, 1-6 fav) 2 Junction Twentytwo, 3, Darling Tirley, 5 ran. Confined: 1, Grouse A Hoop (Julian Pritchard, 1-2 fav) 2, Friston's Dancer, 3 Landslide. Amateur: 1, Ladies 1, Split Second (Miss A Dare, 1-4 fav), 2, Fantastic Flyer, 3 West Hung, 5 ran. Men's Open: 1, William Dukes (Julian Pritchard, 1-12 fav), 2, Champagne Run, 3 ran. PPORA: 1, Down The Nine (Miss A Dare, 8-13 fav), 2, Evanso Irish Grey, 3 finished, 6 ran. Open Mdn: 1, Thomasby Lemon (M Harris, 11-4 fav), 2, Rebirth, Reply, 5, Cloudwood Lad, 12 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Port Side Queen (Richard Phillips, 5-4 fav), 2, Last Pre Bedsit, 3, Mountain Mist, 16 ran.

ISLE OF WIGHT & THAMES VALLEY (Newbridge): Hunt: 1, Bonita Bubble (David Dennis, 4-7 fav), 2, Scallop Shell, Only 2 finished, 3 ran. Confined: 1, Eccles James, 11-8 fav), 2, Dolly Seagull, 3, Buttercream, 6 ran. Mixed Open: 1, Gemini Bubble, 2, Ellie Mae, 3, Arrowsmear, 5, Stalbridge Bill, 5 ran. Novice Riders: 1, Prime Mac (Angela Whatley, 4-11), 2, Gemini, 3, Old Post, 7 ran. Open Mdn: 1, Mountain Prince (Miss A Goschen, 4-9 fav), 2, Jobbingo, 3 ran. Rest: 1, Tarn Anvic, 2, Connect, 3, Nobodysgirl, 4, Gamara, 6 ran.

LLANDEILO FARMERS (Ffos Las): Hunt: 1, No Panic, 2, Lewis, 3, Encounter Girl, 5 finished, 3 ran. Intermediate: 1, Sunset Boon (Miss P Jones, 7-4), 2, Box Of Delights, 3, Jolly Swagman, 7 ran. Men's Open: 1, Shuil's Star (P Hamer, 2-1), 2, Cornish Lanes, 3, Satan's Son, 6 ran. Ladies: 1, Touch N Pass (Miss P Jones, 4-6 fav), 2, Kate's Daughter, 3, Aegean Fortune, 9 ran. Rest: 1, Alton (D S Jones

FOOTBALL

Robson pays heavy price for flaws in foreign policy

BY OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THERE was honour amid relegation for Bryan Robson on Sunday. The Middlesbrough manager shook the hands of the Leeds United players who had finally consigned his team to the Nationwide League and then strode onto the pitch to comfort his players like a general tending to the dying and wounded after a great battle.

In the sunshine at Elland Road lay the ruins of Robson's grand plan to establish Teesside as an unlikely outpost for the extravagant skills of a band of footballing millionaires. As the season had worn on and the alarm bells kept ringing, his failure had become every bit as compelling as the race for the FA Carling Premiership itself.

Manchester United were always the favourites and they duly sprayed the champagne at Old Trafford, having won at a canter after Liverpool's flawed challenge disintegrated in the final weeks of the campaign, helped by a spate of errors from the unfortunate David James.

Leicester City and their hyperactive manager, Martin O'Neill, one of the managers of the year, provided the best of the light relief, winning the Coca-Cola Cup and finishing a highly creditable ninth in the Premiership. Arsenal finally and conclusively shed their "boring" tag under the enlightened stewardship of Arsène Wenger and did enough to suggest that they will be serious contenders next season.

In the end, though, it was Newcastle United who leapt into the second Champions' League position with the final flourish of a 5-0 win over Nottingham Forest at St James' Park. A more solid, better organised outfit since Kevin Keegan became the season's most notable individual casualty and Kenny Dalglish took over as manager, their late-season form has been the equivalent of a declaration of championship intent.

For casualties, though, Middlesbrough take the prize. Theirs was the failure of one of the advance guards of the famed "foreign legion", the failure of a policy of buying big and trying to blend superstars with journeymen, hoping that their sublime skills would trickle down and inspire some of the average players around them.

Emerson, the superbly gifted Brazilian midfield player whom Robson bought from FC Porto, seemed to start the rot with his series of unauthorised flits back to Rio to comfort his girlfriend, who was apparently traumatised by Middlesbrough's winter climate. His painfully transparent efforts to force Robson into granting him a transfer put the manager in an invidious position and affected team morale. When Fabrizio Ravanelli began criticising the club's training facilities in Italian newspapers, matters got worse.

Juninho was the one shining light in the darkness, a pocket dynamo of Brazilian midfield brilliance and unswerving devotion to the club. His devastation on Sunday, as he sat on the pitch choking back tears, was the most poignant image of the season.

The behaviour of Emerson was, perhaps, beyond Robson's control, something for which he could not legislate.



Robson: let down

His real failure lay in the fact that he neglected to secure high-quality players to perform capable cameos in the same way that Dalglish had men such as Wilcox, Ripley and Hendry to complement Shearer, Flowers and Batty in Blackburn Rovers' championship-winning side.

Some, perhaps, will be tempted to glory in Middlesbrough's fall, especially if they persist — as began to look increasingly likely yesterday — with what seems sure to be a pointless court action to try to recover the three points that the FA Premier League docked them for failing to fulfil their fixture against Blackburn in December.

If they were successful, Coventry City would be relegated instead, but then Coventry would launch their own action, Uefa, the European governing body, would penalise Middlesbrough, and the whole thing would degenerate into an unholy mess. Better that they should accept their punishment with the grace that Robson accepted relegation.

The irony, of course, is that while Middlesbrough and their fans became convinced, without any foundation, that everyone in England wanted to see them fail, most will feel that the Premiership and English football will be the poorer without them. Juninho may find a home elsewhere, possibly at Manchester United, and there is bound to be no shortage of English suitors for Ravanelli and for Gianluca Festa, if not for the wayward Emerson, who will surely head for warmer climes.

The players, then, may stay in England, but that is not the point. Their recruitment gave everyone hope that a team once so unfashionable and downtrodden as Middlesbrough might be able to gatecrash the increasingly exclusive Premiership party and strike a blow for diversity in the rush for honours.

That dream, along with Middlesbrough's, died at Elland Road on Sunday.

ITF update 44, 45



As Chelsea's fitness trainer, Mafe is responsible for ensuring that the likes of Gianluca Vialli are in perfect shape. Photograph: Tony O'Brien

Mafe trains his eye on the twin towers

Russell Kempson on the former sprinter who hopes to have the Chelsea players in peak condition at Wembley on Saturday

Ade Mafe sits in the canteen at the Chelsea training ground in Harlington, beneath the Heathrow flight path he once regularly travelled to lands afar. Excited schoolboys, who might once have sought his autograph, lie in wait for greater prizes — Zola, Vialli, Hughes et al. BBC television, which once highlighted his explosive talents, negotiates with others. Mafe slips by, unnoticed.

It is 13 years since he became the youngest British male athlete, at 17, to reach an Olympic final, when he finished eighth behind Carl Lewis in the 200 metres in Los Angeles. It is seven years since he won a Commonwealth Games bronze medal in the 200 metres final in Auckland, completing an England clean sweep with Marcus Adam and John Regis.

It is also six years since he helped the British 4x400 metres relay squad to gold in the 1991 world championships in Tokyo, alongside Mark Richardson, Kris Akabusi, Roger Black, Derek Redmond and Regis; and it is four years since a broken toe, which went undiagnosed for a season, forced him to drift from the public consciousness and seek alternative employment.

Mafe, 30, maintains an anonymous profile in Harlington, among the instantly recognisable bald heads, shaven skulls and dreadlocks. Yet he plays a key role in the Ruud Gullit roadshow and will sit on the bench at Wembley on Saturday, when Chelsea play Middlesbrough in the FA Cup Final.

Ten months ago, via a mutual friend, Mafe got the call from Gullit, the Chelsea player-manager. Gullit wanted a fitness trainer, in the mode of many continental clubs, and persuaded Mafe to relinquish the 30-strong client base he had built up since removing his spikes. He is also a qualified masseur and helps to rejuvenate the aching limbs of Stamford Bridge's finest.

"I'd only ever seen one football match before I joined Chelsea," Mafe said, "but after 15 years in athletics, I found there were many things I could adapt to a football environment. The players are in pretty good shape here, although the foreign lads perhaps have a better mentality towards fitness conditioning than the British ones.

"The foreigners know that conditioning is as important as technical ability. Telling them to do something is not a problem. The British tend to think that if they can play football, they're OK. To get them to run is something you have to educate them about."

Mafe orchestrates the pre-training and pre-match warm-ups, supervises players returning from injury and watches, hawk-like, during matches. "If I see someone's flagging, I make a note and maybe give him a bit extra to do the following week," he said. "I might say to Ruud: 'He's had it, he's knackered,' but it's up to him whether he keeps the player on or takes him off."

Gullit, as he recovers from ankle surgery, has not escaped the treatment. "I have to push him, I can't be too soft on him," Mafe said. "He tries to shirk it sometimes, and he moans a bit, but he knows it's for his own benefit. He might be my boss but he's still a player and I tell him to get on with it."



Mafe ended his running career after breaking a toe

Few dictate to Gullit and survive. Yet Mafe's manner is born of confidence, a calm inner belief, not arrogance. He talks freely, swiftly and pauses only to recall the many memories of an athletics career that, frustratingly, rarely matched its initial teenage promise.

Four years after his Olympic debut, he returned to Los Angeles in an effort to salvage his sanity. "Maybe I grew up a bit too quickly," he said. "Everything was going wrong, it was all collapsing around me. I needed to get away, I had to find myself again."

He eventually came home, reinvigorated, and changed coaches. Bronze in Auckland was tempered by subsequent Achilles problems, pushing him into a premature switch from 200 to 400 metres, and although relative success followed, he opted for retirement after surgery on his broken toe.

"I was told I could have kept on running but I felt it was the time to get out," he said. "Maybe it was a message, maybe it all happened for a reason. I believe that your destiny lies in your own hands, you have to make the best of it when the chance comes along. I wish I'd made my decision earlier but you're always chasing that dream, aren't you?"

Mafe is content. He has a two-year contract to carry on conditioning the Chelsea thoroughbreds, while his parents, Comfort and Ade Sr, have become enthusiastic followers of the club. "They've both got their scarves for Wembley," he said. Ola, his sister, will be there, too, plus a few friends.

He has no regrets, either. "I've been all over the world and been in all the major stadiums," he said, "now I'm going to all the major football grounds. I usually watch the FA Cup Final at home on television — you know, the bit when the cameras are on the team bus. I'm now going to be on that bus."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

East on this hand was submitted to a coup known as "Morton's Fork". Those of you who have heard the story 18 times had better skip to the diagram. Cardinal Morton was Henry VII's Chancellor of the Exchequer. He insisted that all merchants could afford extra taxes: those who appeared prosperous certainly had plenty of money, and those who lived a frugal life had clearly saved enough to pay. Thus they were impaled on Morton's Fork. In bridge, the expression has come to be used to describe a particular type of defensive dilemma.

Dealer South **Game all** **IMPs**

	♠AQ53 ♥K9874 ♦KQ ♣K6	
♠74 ♥J3 ♦A109765 ♣J85	N W E S	♠KJ98 ♥102 ♦83 ♣A10932
	♠1062 ♥AQ65 ♦J42 ♣Q74	

Contract: Four Hearts by South. Lead: ace of diamonds

After an artificial sequence in which North had opened One Club showing a strong hand, South became the declarer in Four Hearts. After leading the ace of diamonds, West switched to the seven of spades. Declarer (John Probst) played low from dummy, East won with the jack and returned his remaining diamond.

Declarer has one trick in spades, five in hearts, two in diamonds and one in clubs. It looks from West's switch to the seven of spades that East has both the king and jack of spades. So how is declarer to avoid losing two spade tricks as well as the minor-suit aces?

If declarer can gauge which defender has the ace of clubs, he can lead a low club through him. If the defender rises with the ace, declarer has an extra trick in clubs, and can throw both dummy's spades on third round minor-suit winners. And if the defender ducks, declarer can win the club and later throw dummy's remaining club on the jack of diamonds; he finally concedes a trick to the king of spades. The defender's no-win situation is known as Morton's Fork.

Here, it is correct to start the hearts by laying down the king, in case East started with J1032. When all followed, Probst had to guess who had the ace of clubs. He showed good table presence by leading a club from dummy before drawing the remaining trumps. That left East with no winning play.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Black day

In the sixth and final game of his match against IBM's Deep Blue computer, human world champion Garry Kasparov, defending with Black, stumbled into a known variation which grandmaster experience has shown for many years gives White a virtually overwhelming attack for the sacrifice of a piece.

At fault was Kasparov's seventh move 7 ... h6, long condemned by theory, which virtually forces White to make an advantageous sacrifice. In the final position, although Black has a nominal material advantage, White's attack rages unabated. Apart from losing to the computer, this is almost certainly the shortest game Kasparov has ever lost under serious tournament conditions.

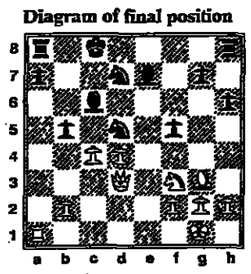
Having won this match, the question must arise whether Deep Blue should start to enter grandmaster tournaments and face other leading exponents of the game, such as Karpov, Kramnik and Anand or, indeed, whether Deep Blue (or rather its IBM minders) should issue a serious challenge for a full-blown world championship match.

It would be unfortunate if IBM were simply to declare victory over the human brain and withdraw its computer from further international competition. Here are the moves of that historic win.

White: Deep Blue
Black: Garry Kasparov
New York, May 1997
Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	Nc3	dxe4
4	Nxe4	Nd7
5	Ng5	Ngf6
6	Bd3	e6
7	N1f3	h6
8	Nxe6	Qe7
9	0-0	fxe6
10	Bg6+	Kd8
11	Bf4	b5
12	a4	Bb7
13	Re1	Nd5
14	Bg3	Kc8
15	axb5	cxb5
16	Qd3	Bc6
17	Bf5	exf5
18	Rxe7	Bxe7
19	c4	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



England leads

After a victory against Armenia in the sixth round of the European team championship in Pula, Croatia, the England team leads Hungary and Russia with the score of 16/24.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Final score

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts
Kasparov	1	0	½	½	½	0	2½
Deep Blue	0	1	½	½	½	1	3½

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MANOAH
a. The Promised Land
b. Father of Samson
c. The Day of Atonement

TABITHA
a. A born again sewer
b. Sister of Lazarus
c. Mother of Paul

AHINOAM
a. A mighty general
b. A minor prophet
c. A wife of David

SALOME
a. A priestess
b. Zebedee's wife
c. A type of psalm

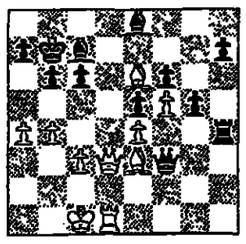
Answers on page 49

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Jakobsen — Von Hennig, Goteborg 1920. There does not appear to be any immediate danger facing Black but the offside position of his queen and rook give White the chance for a tactical finish. How did he continue?

Solution on page 49



RUGBY LEAGUE: MARTYN AND McDERMOTT DRAFTED IN FOR INTERNATIONAL

Ancestry an asset as Ireland tackle France

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WITH insufficient sons of the sod to make up a truly competitive Ireland team, enough Irish ancestry has been discovered to promise France a decent workout in the first international match between the countries at Evry, near Paris, tonight.

Tommy Martyn, the St Helens stand-off half, and Barrie McDermott, of Leeds, who will partner Cliff Eccles, of Salford, in the front row, are new to the cause. Although Terry O'Connor, the Wigan prop, was forced to withdraw with an ankle injury, nearly half of the Ireland side has a Super League background.

Apart from a small contingent of England-based personnel and four players from the Paris Saint-Germain club, most members of the France team, drawn from their domestic competition, have not played competitively since the end of March. Although considerably more experienced as a team at international level, France are unlikely to find Ireland in accommodating mood.

The success of the fixture, and another between Scotland and France in Glasgow, in July, could lead to the development of a five nations' competition. A Super League club based in Dublin is still a possibility, and a Cardiff academy side represents a new start for the sport in Wales.

Andy Hay has become the fourth player recruited by Leeds from Sheffield Eagles since the arrival from Sheffield last year of Gary Hetherington as chief executive. Hay, 23, follows Ryan Sheridan, Dean Lawford, and Anthony Farrell. Richie Eyres, the former Great Britain forward, has made the reverse move to Sheffield, initially on loan.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 002087 of 1997
In the High Court Of Justice
Chancery Division
Companies Court
IN THE MATTER OF FRAMLINGTON GROUP LTD
and
IN THE MATTER of the COMPANIES ACT 1985

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION was on the 24th day of April 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the CONFIRMATION of the CANCELLATION of the SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT of the above-named Company presently standing at £15,372,388.94.

And Notice is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 21st day of May, 1997.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said PETITION will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated the 13th day of May 1997.

STEPHENSON HARWOOD
One St.Paul's Churchyard
London EC4M 8SH
Tel: 0171 329 4422
Ref: 774/232
Solicitors for the above-named Company

LIBRASCAN GRAPHICS LIMITED (In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K F Barry, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 583, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 4LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 6th May 1997. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 6th May 1997
K F BARRY, FCA, Liquidator

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

CANNON BRIDGE DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED
AND
CANNON BRIDGE INVESTMENTS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that meetings of the creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at 7 Kendrick Place, London W1H 3FF on 3rd June 1997 at 12.00 noon and 12.15 pm respectively for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above Companies' Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kendrick Place, London W1H 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 8TH MAY 1997
D. Fraiken Director

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The National Sea Training Trust
Scheme (including alteration of the objects of the charity
Reference: TRS-16403-CD(Ldn)

The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Carthusian Court 12 Carthusian Street London EC1M 6EB or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
The 168th Annual General Meeting of the Society for 1996 will be held in the Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London SW8 7HX from 10.30 am to 1 pm on Saturday, 28th June 1997 to receive and adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statement for 1996 and any approved Motion, notice of which shall have been sent to the Director General at the Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1HG, not later than Friday, 30th May 1997. Applications for admission cards by members should be made to the Director General, RSPCA, Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1HG

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

NOTICE PURSUANT TO THE TRUSTEE ACT 1925
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of MOHAMMED ABDALA HAMED, Herbalist, late of 118 Kingsley Road, Hounslow, Middlesex and of 22 Argyle Avenue, Hounslow, Middlesex, who died on 24.11.1996, is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest, to the undersigned, the Executor of the Estate, on or before the First Day of August, 1997, after which date the Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which he shall then have had notice.
Claims should be sent to:- Salim Wadiwala of 4/5 Central Chambers First Floor 1-10 The Broadway Ealing London W5 2NT

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-680 6878
OR
FAX: 0171-481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

March 31, the group had £12 billion under management

ber 31. The shares closed up 7½p to 75p.

CRICKET

Snape spin enlivens a thin day in the sun

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

NORTHAMPTON (Leicestershire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Leicestershire by 52 runs

THE preliminary skirmishes in the Benson and Hedges Cup have produced some awful games in their time, but few can ever have been so dismal as this. The batting was poor, much of the bowling was lamentable, and the fielding was indifferent. There was not a single memory any spectator could take away from the day's play. It was abysmal cricket.

Northamptonshire, by virtue of their victory, go through to the quarter-final stage. Leicestershire were there already, having won their first three group matches. Now the competition can begin in earnest. It doesn't half waste time at the start of the season, when teams should be playing proper cricket.

The gold award went to an off spinner, Jeremy Snape, who took five Leicestershire wickets as they fell apart. Maddy had given them a good start and even when Habib was the third man out at 127, caught by Emburey at long-off, there were still 18 overs in which to make 112. But they were not up to it, and Snape gutted the middle order to enjoy a rare day in the sun.

Emburey played his part. He made ground to hold his catch and he bowled his off spin tidily, conceding as few runs — 32 — as Snape from his ten overs. He took only wicket, but it was a good one, that of Maddy, whose timing and placement were secure until he clipped a catch to Bailey at short mid-wicket.

Neil Johnson, the South African all-rounder chosen to be Leicestershire's overseas player this year, was the only man to pass fifty, and he did not bat all that well. The manner of his dismissal, caught at mid-wicket as he tried to wallop a full toss into a neighbouring parish, caught the mood of the day.

That mood was established early on, as Mullally and Millns launched the Northamptonshire innings with a succession of wides. There were 17 in the innings, 26 in the match, and some of them were very wide indeed. Johnson, bowling his unexceptional medium pace, actually landed one ball on an adjacent strip. Is it asking too much for professionals to pitch it on the relevant strip?

Capel, who swatted Johnson for one well-timed six into the cars at mid-wicket, gave Leicestershire a swift enough start with Loye. Johnson broke the stand when Capel cut to backward point, and Loye fell three runs short of a half-century when he was thinking about adding a few more. Curran failed and Bailey never got going. Penberthy's 38 proved valuable and Walton finished on 35 not out as Northamptonshire eventually reached 238 for eight.

It appeared to be fairly plain sailing in the early stages of the reply. Maddy should have gone on 32 when Ripley, moving across Emburey at slip, put the fielder off, but the opener was playing freely enough to encourage James Whitaker, the Leicestershire captain, who was nursing a finger he injured during the Northamptonshire innings, to think he may not be required to make a decisive contribution.

When Habib drove Snape to long-off the match was in the balance and shortly afterwards, when Smith gave Snape a return catch off the toe end of the bat, it shifted towards Northamptonshire. Snape was cock-a-hoop when Nixon provided another return catch and, with successive balls in the following over, Whitaker drove to Curran at long-off and Johnson perished to a slog.

The game was up for Leicestershire, who were content to pat out the remaining overs in the knowledge that the result was of no significance to the group table. They can play better cricket than this. Indeed, to make further progress, they will have to. Surely, there cannot be many days as thin as this.



Cowdrey drives through the covers during his innings of 77 for Kent against Gloucestershire at Bristol yesterday

Cowdrey prompts Kent recovery

BY DEREK HODGSON

BRISTOL (Kent won toss): Gloucestershire, with all wickets in hand, need a further 215 runs from 46 overs to beat Kent

KENT'S advance on the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup was interrupted by another wave of the rain cycle. Play was delayed for two hours and then halted soon after 5pm by another downpour.

Paul Strang and Shaun Young, these sides' respective new overseas professionals, will be mystified by talk of drought and water rationing.

Strang demonstrated what a neat and nimble batsman he can be by contributing 38 off 33 balls, his innings emphasising the strength of the Kent tail. They are already in the last eight but need to win here to ensure a tie at Canterbury.

Their resilience was apparent in a recovery, on a pitch of little pace, from six for two in the fourth over. Ward was bowled driving and Fleming, for whom the term pinch-hitter might have been created, top-edged to mid-off. When Wells fell to a fine slip catch, Kent were 39 for three with 13 overs gone.

That brought in Nigel Llong to partner Graham Cowdrey in a stand of gradually increasing momentum, the next 21 overs bringing 100 runs as Mark Alleyne tried unsuccessfully to widen the breach. Richard Davis, the former Kent left-arm spinner, might have had Wells stumped off his first ball, which flew off Russell's pads. Ball, the off spinner, suffered most from Cowdrey, who lifted and pulled him for two sixes.

Llong was the first to go, run out going for a third by Cunliffe's long throw. He was one short of a half-century, his best shot having been a skimming cover drive off Hancock. Cowdrey's belligerence was brought to an end by a stumping. His 77 off 106 balls was his best score in this competition.

Kent's strength was demonstrated by the addition of 80 off the last ten overs as Strang and Marsh, his captain, welcomed the return of the seamers.

The target of 240 against their bowling will not be easily reached on what will probably be a wet outfield. Gloucestershire had four overs, in which Monte Lynch laid about the bowling, hitting three boundaries.

McGrath's century gives home comfort

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (2pts) bt Minor Counties by 184 runs

THIS win over Minor Counties yesterday was no great achievement by Yorkshire, for whom Anthony McGrath's unbeaten 109 from 85 balls was his best score in the Benson and Hedges Cup, but it guaranteed them a home draw in the quarter-final.

David Byas, the captain, made 72 from 81 balls and Yorkshire's score would have been even weightier but for the efforts of Simon Oakes, 22, a sales promotion manager and medium-fast bowler from Grantham.

Oakes, who has attracted Nottinghamshire's interest, had figures of three for 23 when Yorkshire were quivering, if not wobbling, at 128 for three. Without his contribution, the Minor Counties have been on the wrong end of a total of over 350.

Byas and Darren Lehmann, the Australian, who is already a firm favourite with the spectators, added 58 in ten overs for the second wicket, a partnership that laid the ground for McGrath's dominance, which was so complete that Richard Blakey contributed only 18 of the first 100 runs they added in a sixth-wicket partnership worth 112.

Steve Dean, profiting as the bowlers fed his leg-side strengths, launched the Minor Counties innings in some style and Darren Gough conceded 25 runs from six overs in which he rarely looked likely to take a wicket.

Dean, of Staffordshire, had 11 fours in his 56, made from 52 balls, but when Craig White bowled Wayne Larkins, Dean and Ian Cockbain at a cost of seven runs in the space of nine balls, it was start of a complete collapse. Minor Counties, 63 without loss in 12 overs, lost all ten wickets adding another 62. Nick Gaywood, last out, played staunchly to score 30 from 55 balls.

Richard Dalton, of Bedfordshire, the gold award winner at Worcester, where he scored 69 and took three for 33, had a distinctly less profitable day. He conceded 80 from ten overs and was out first ball, caught at slip.

Three Yorkshire bowlers were on a hat-trick — White, Richard Stemp and Peter Hartley — but none could achieve it. Although this will be Yorkshire's eleventh quarter-final appearance, they have only once gone on to win the trophy.

Atherton's hollow victory

BY PAT GIBSON

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Scores tied. Lancashire (2pts) beat Worcestershire by losing fewer wickets

THERE was one consolation for Michael Atherton after he had taken his aggregate to a meagre 95 runs in seven innings for Lancashire this season — at least Tom Moody will not be playing for Australia when Atherton captains England in the Texaco Trophy one-day internationals next week.

Moody, whose towering presence in county cricket as the Worcestershire captain is a permanent reminder of the strength of Australia's batting, makes a habit of tormenting Lancashire. In the past three seasons he has scored 649 runs, including five centuries, against them at an average of 108, and yesterday he was at it again.

His 92 was not quite enough to give his side victory because Worcestershire had lost seven wickets compared with Lancashire's six when Newport was caught off the final ball with the scores level on 274. It was sufficient, however, to ensure that Lancashire will not progress beyond the qualifying rounds of the Benson and Hedges Cup for the first time since 1988.

Lancashire, who have held the cup for the past two seasons, had to win by a massive margin to overhaul either Derbyshire or Warwickshire on run-rate and Atherton did not do a lot to help. He had made only six off 21 balls when he top-edged an attempted hook against Newport and was caught at wide mid-on. He looks completely out of sorts, but there is no point in worrying about it. He has been through this kind of thing before.

Crawley and Lloyd, the two other Lancastrians who should be in the England one-day side, did not look to be in the best of form either, and it was left to Gallian, playing with unfamiliar freedom, to give them the start they needed with 59, including ten fours, off 55 balls.

The rest of the innings was pure Fairbrother. The little man was once considered to be the best one-day batsman in England and he showed that he has not lost the knack by scoring an unbeaten 75 off 100 balls. He had hit only one four before he launched Leatherdale for two sixes in the last over.

Moody could not have provided a greater contrast. He trades in boundaries and as long as he was there, hitting two sixes and 11 fours in his 92 off 83 balls, Worcestershire were winning the game.

Hick, showing signs of returning form, helped him to put on 131 in 17 overs before they were out in the space of three balls from Martin, Moody caught at long-on, Hick by the wicketkeeper. There was still no need for Worcestershire to panic until Atherton picked up a brilliant catch at point to dismiss Haynes, again off Martin, but panic they did.

Essex spared Curry's clout

Andrew Longmore, in damp Downpatrick, meets Ireland's answer to Gilbert Jessop

The sign on the high street warning of water-pipe repairs and possible delays could just as well have been stationed outside the cricket ground. It was all the government's fault, the groundsman said. Had they not insisted on a pipe being built underneath the ground to siphon off the rainwater from the neighbouring hills, everything would have been dry as a bone.

The pipe had overflowed from the torrential rain of the previous week, the going was distinctly heavy on the run-up at the eastern end and, though the pitch looked perfectly playable, cover point would have needed galoshes. All it needed was Dickie Bird wading about, looking at the heavens and muttering to himself, and a desolate scene would have been complete.

There was never much chance of Ireland taking on Essex in the Benson and Hedges Cup here yesterday, and a few critics of the choice of venue could have told you that a month ago. Downpatrick collects water like a barrel and May is not usually its driest month.

So the Essex bowlers live to fight another day and the Londonderry legend has to wait a while to smite some more famous foes. Desmond — better known as Dekker — Curry, alias The Sheep-strangler, can empty pubs even in these hard-drinking parts. A left-handed opener with forearms honed during his daily shifts in the abattoir, Curry once hit 230 in a 40-over game for his home club at Donemmr.

The ground had short boundaries, he says modestly, but the people of Clonarth will tell you how little that matters. One six on their ground cleared the wall round their ground, the houses beyond that and was last seen heading for the town square. "I really slapped that one," Curry recalled with a smile. It has always been his way, to give it a slap, as Angus Fraser will tell you through gritted teeth.

Fraser was the prime victim of an assault in the historic victory by Ireland over Middlesex earlier this season. Curry set the tone of disrespect with 75 at just under a run a ball and won the man-of-the-match award.

On the third ball of the game, he advanced down the wicket and deposited the old England warhorse back to the fence. Imagine the glower that indignity induced.

"When I first saw him, he reminded me a little of Viv Richards, the way he put his foot down the wicket and whipped everything through the leg side; now he plays straighter," Mike Hendrick, the Ireland coach, said. Had the advice come a little earlier in his life, Curry might now be playing county cricket.

He has not given up all hope of a game or two on Sundays, even at the age of 30. County publicans would be wise to lobby against it.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Benson & Hedges Cup
Lancashire v Worcestershire

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Scores tied, Lancashire (2pts) beat Worcestershire by losing fewer wickets

LANCASHIRE

J E R Gallian lbw b Hick	59
M A Atherton c Weston b Newport	6
J P Crawley c Moody b Leatherdale	37
N H Fairbrother not out	75
G D Lloyd b Shahyar	32
†D Austin run out	25
*Wasim Akram b Newport	4
W K Hegg not out	9
Extras (lb 8, w 15, nb 4)	27
Total (6 wkts, 50 overs)	274

P J Martin, G Yates and R J Green did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-100, 3-124, 4-193, 5-237, 6-247.

BOWLING: Newport 9-1-45-2; Haynes 10-1-55-0; Shahyar 10-0-65-1; Brinkley 2-0-18-0; Hick 9-0-42-1; Leatherdale 10-0-41-1.

WORCESTERSHIRE

*T M Moody c Yates b Martin	92
W P C Weston c Hegg b Wasim	6
G A Hick c Hegg b Martin	40
G R Haynes c Atherton b Martin	39
V S Solanki lbw b Yates	20
K R Spiring not out	92
D A Leatherdale run out	7
†S J Rhodes lbw b Austin	0
P J Newport c Green b Wasim	12
Extras (lb 8, w 14, nb 6)	28
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	274

J E Brinkley and A Shahyar did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-156, 3-156, 4-196, 5-235, 6-245, 7-248, 8-274.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-1-31-2; Austin 10-0-42-1; Martin 10-0-56-3; Green 7-0-53-0; Yates 10-0-71-1; Gallian 3-1-16-0.

Gold award: T M Moody.

Umpires: B J Meyer and P Willey.

Yorkshire v Minor Counties

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (2pts) beat Minor Counties by 184 runs

YORKSHIRE

*D Byas c and b Oakes	72
M P Vaughan b Oakes	15
D S Lehmann c Larkins b Laudat	34
P J Hartley c Nicholson b Oakes	0
A McGrath not out	109
C White c Gaywood b Sharp	24
†R J Blakey not out	23
Extras (lb 1, lb 8, w 17, nb 6)	32
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs)	309

S Parker, D Gough, C E W Silverwood and R D Stemp did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-70, 2-128, 3-128, 4-138, 5-197.

BOWLING: Murphy 10-0-60-0; Sharp 10-0-53-1; Dalton 10-0-80-0; Oakes 10-1-37-3; Laudat 10-0-70-1.

MINOR COUNTIES

S J Dean b White	56
W Larkins b White	15
N R Gaywood c McGrath b Vaughan	30
†I Cockbain b White	0
J P J Sylvester b Stemp	8
R N Dalton c Lehmann b Stemp	0
S V Laudat b Hartley	4
†P J Nicholson lbw b Hartley	0
M A Sharp c Gough b Stemp	1
S Oakes lbw b Silverwood	0
A J Murphy not out	0
Extras (lb 2, w 5, nb 6)	13
Total (33.3 overs)	125

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-63, 2-77, 3-77, 4-105, 5-105, 6-123, 7-123, 8-124, 9-125.

BOWLING: Gough 6-0-25-0; Silverwood 5-0-25-1; White 7-1-22-3; Hartley 6-0-28-2; Stemp 9-3-22-3; Vaughan 0.3-0-0-1.

Gold award: A McGrath.

Umpires: M J Kitchen and A A Jones.

Northamptonshire v Leicestershire

NORTHAMPTON (Leicestershire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Leicestershire by 52 runs

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

D J Capel c Maddy b Johnson	28
M B Loye c Nixon b Millns	47
*R J Bailey c Parsons b Brimson	29
K M Curran c and b Parsons	0
A L Penberthy c Maddy b Mullally	38
J C Walton not out	35
J N Snape run out	2
†D Ripley st Nixon b Brimson	0
J E Emburey c Millns b Johnson	13
Mohammad Akram not out	0
Extras (lb 7, lb 13, w 17, nb 2)	39
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	238

J P Taylor did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-78, 2-106, 3-107, 4-152, 5-178, 6-186, 7-201, 8-233.

BOWLING: Mullally 10-2-27-1, Millns 10-1-44-1; Johnson 10-0-51-2; Parsons 10-0-39-1; Brimson 9-0-49-2; Maddy 1-0-8-0.

LEICESTERSHIRE

D L Maddy c Bailey b Emburey	42
G I Macmillan c Ripley b Capel	12
A Habib c Emburey b Snape	25
N C Johnson c Walton b Snape	58
B F Smith c and b Snape	11
†P A Nixon c and b Snape	10
*J J Whitaker c Curran b Snape	0
G J Parsons c Ripley b Bailey	4
O J Millns not out	3
A D Mullally not out	0
Extras (lb 10, w 9, nb 2)	21
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	186

M T Brimson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-88, 2-88, 3-127, 4-150, 5-172, 6-178, 7-178, 8-185.

BOWLING: Mohammad Akram 9-1-34-0; Taylor 9-1-17-0; Capel 6-0-19-1; Emburey 10-1-32-1; Snape 10-1-32-5; Curran 6-0-41-0; Bailey 1-0-1-1.

Gold award: J N Snape.

Umpires: J C Balderstone and D R Shepherd.

British Universities v Hampshire

THE PARKS (British Universities won toss): Hampshire (2pts) beat British Universities by seven wickets

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES

T P Hodgson c Udal b Stephenson	113
A J Strauss lbw b Renshaw	1
U B A Rashid c Aymes b Hayden	82
*A Singh lbw b Hayden	3
W J House c James b Udal	37
M J Chilton c Aymes b Stephenson	6
J A Ford c Udal b Renshaw	6
†T M B Bailey run out	13
A D Edwards not out	0
Extras (lb 15, w 8)	23
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	284

P S Jones and S A J Boswell did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-174, 3-191, 4-244, 5-257, 6-266, 7-272, 8-284.

BOWLING: Renshaw 9-0-54-2; Maru 10-1-35-0; Stephenson 10-0-47-2; James 3-0-18-0; Udal 8-0-55-1; Whitaker 1-0-15-0; Hayden 9-0-45-2.

HAMPSHIRE

G W White st Bailey b Jones	56
M L Hayden not out	120
R A Smith c Hodgson b Chilton	45
W S Kendall lbw b Jones	20
*J P Stephenson not out	35
Extras (lb 6, w 3, nb 2)	11
Total (6 wkts, 48.3 overs)	287

†P R Whitaker, †A N Aymes, S D Udal, R J Maru, S J Renshaw and K D James did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-95, 2-193, 3-224.

BOWLING: Boswell 9.3-0-47-0; Edwards 10-0-58-0; Jones 10-1-51-2; Chilton 9-0-65-1; Rashid 10-0-62-0.

Gold award: M L Hayden.

Umpires: J H Hampshire and J W Holder.

Gloucestershire v Kent

BRISTOL (Kent won toss): Gloucestershire, with all wickets in hand, need 215 runs to beat Kent

KENT

T R Ward b Smith	2
M V Fleming c Alleyne b Young	4
A P Wells c Lynch b Alleyne	12
G R Cowdrey st Russell b Davis	77
N J Llong run out	49
M A Ealham b Davis	8
P A Strang not out	38
*†S A Marsh b Young	27
M J McCague not out	7
Extras (lb 11, w 4)	15
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	239

T N Wren and D W Headley did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-6, 3-39, 4-141, 5-151, 6-169, 7-228.

BOWLING: Smith 10-3-32-1; Young 9-0-48-2; Davis 10-1-46-2; Alleyne 6-0-24-1; Hancock 5-0-23-0; Ball 10-0-53-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

M A Lynch not out	17
A J Wright not out	4
Extras (lb 3, w 1)	4
Total (no wkt, 4.2 overs)	25

R J Cunliffe, S Young, *M W Alleyne, R J Dawson, †R C Russell, T H C Hancock, M C J Ball, A M Smith and R P Davis to bat.

BOWLING: McCague 2.2-0-12-0; Headley 2-0-10-0.

Umpires: B Dudleston and G Sharp.

Surrey v Sussex

THE OVAL (Sussex won toss): Surrey (2pts) beat Sussex by 11 runs

SURREY

A D Brown c Taylor b Thursfield	40
†A J Stewart c Phillips b Thursfield	72
G P Thorpe c Thursfield b Greenfield	78
M A Butcher c Moores b Jarvis	48
*A J Hollioake lbw b Jarvis	8
B C Hollioake c Moores b Jarvis	16
J D Ratcliffe c and b Khan	0
I D K Salisbury lbw b Jarvis	3
N Shahid not out	20
M P Bicknell not out	2
Extras (lb 1, lb 13, w 6)	23
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	310

J E Benjamin did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-135, 3-247, 4-260, 5-267, 6-270, 7-273, 8-300.

BOWLING: Jarvis 10-1-60-4; Khan 10-0-70-1; Robinson 9-0-54-0, Thursfield 8-0-49-2; Phillips 10-0-46-0; Greenfield 3-0-17-1.

SUSSEX

K Greenfield run out	44



McGrath: scored 109 not out for Yorkshire

R K Rao b Ratcliffe	61
N R Taylor c Butcher b Ratcliffe	67
M Newell b Salisbury	60
C W J Athey b Salisbury	20
*†P Moores b Benjamin	5
P W Jarvis not out	17
N C Phillips b Salisbury	0
A A Khan lbw b Salisbury	2
M J Thursfield run out	2
M A Robinson run out	0
Extras (lb 10, w 3, nb 8)	21
Total (48.5 overs)	299

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-93, 2-151, 3-206, 4-268, 5-275, 6-277, 7-277, 8-279, 9-283.

BOWLING: Bicknell 10-0-59-0; Benjamin 10-0-80-1; B C Hollioake 4.5-0-43-0; A J Hollioake, 6-0-32-0; Salisbury 10-0-53-4; Ratcliffe 8-0-42-2.

Gold award: I D K Salisbury.

Umpires: G I Burgess and K E Palmer.

Middlesex v Somerset

LORD'S (Middlesex won toss): Somerset have scored 172 for four wickets against Middlesex

SOMERSET

M N Lathwell c Weekes b Hewitt	0
M Burns c Moffat b Fraser	54
S C Ecclestone b Hewitt	9
*P D Bowler not out	54
G D Rose c Gatting b Kallis	9
R J Harden not out	17
Extras (b 4, lb 9, w 16)	29
Total (4 wkts, 38 overs)	172

†R J Turner, K A Parsons, J I D Kerr, S Herzberg and A R Caddick to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-17, 3-125, 4-145.

BOWLING: Hewitt 8-1-37-2; Foy 7-0-27-0; Fraser 10-1-23-1; Johnson 10-0-50-0; Kallis 3-0-22-1.

MIDDLESEX P N Weekes, J H Kallis, S P Moffat, *M W Gatting, J C Pooley, †K R Brown, K P Dutch, R A Fay, J P Hewitt, R L Johnson, A R C Fraser.

Umpires: D J Constant and A G T Whitehead.

No play

Derby: Derbyshire v Warwickshire; Edinburgh: Scotland v Nottinghamshire; Downpatrick: Ireland v Essex.

Correction

Axa Life League
Gloucestershire v Hampshire

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

M A Lynch not out	86
A J Wright c Kendall b Stephenson	4
S Young c Maru b Stephenson	2
†R C Russell c Kendall b James	1
*M W Alleyne c Hayden b Udal	33
T H C Hancock c Hayden b Renshaw	2
R J Cunliffe not out	0
Extras (w 7, nb 2)	9
Total (6 wkts, 16 overs)	139

N J Trainor, M C J Ball, A M Smith, K P Shearer.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-17, 3-18, 4-115, 5-123.

BOWLING: Renshaw 4-0-25-1; Stephenson 3-0-26-2; James 3-0-18-1; Mascarenhas 3-0-35-0; Udal 3-0-36-1.

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CRICKET: SURREY SURPRISED BY STRENGTH OF SPIRITED CHALLENGE FROM CUP UNDERDOGS

Salisbury thwarts bold bid by Sussex

BY SIMON WILDE

THE OVAL (Sussex won toss): Surrey (2pts) beat Sussex by 11 runs

THIS promised to be the ultimate mismatch. Surrey, fancied by many — including themselves — as kings of county cricket's one-day jungle, versus scrawny Sussex, surely among the easiest of prey. One team with almost boundless hopes for what the season will bring, the other with no hope at all.

For half the day it looked as though the expected thrashing was duly being administered as Surrey headed for a stratospheric score. After one over from Jarvis and another from Khan, Sussex's plucky little leg spinner to whom Moores threw the new ball, the score was 22 for no wicket.

Brown scored 40 and Stewart 72 as together they thrashed 101 in 17 overs for the first wicket. Thorpe made 78 and Butcher 48, but how many should you score against no-hopers on as flat a pitch as that at the Oval, where totals of 300 are not uncommon in the Benson and Hedges Cup?

Surrey looked at their perspiring opponents, who bowled too many balls down the leg side, and were unsure. Losing their way in the last ten overs, they settled for a score of 310 for eight.

Sussex, of course, had no chance. But they had nothing to lose except another match and so went hell-for-leather for the runs. Rao, full of wristy pulls, and Greenfield ran like terriers and rode their luck to give them just the start they needed with 93 in 15 overs. The stand was only broken by a brilliant piece of fielding from Brown, who struck the stumps Greenfield was heading for from 20 yards.

Taylor and Mark Newell then played the best innings of the game. Taylor, who has a reputation in the championship as a slow scorer, looking destined for a seventh century in this competition, a tally exceeded only by Gooch. He struck 67 from 66 balls and Newell 60 from 60, both driving cleanly and precisely into the gaps.

At 268 for three in the 45th over, Sussex were winning the game and Surrey were well and truly rattled. The tension got to them. When an appeal was turned down for a catch against Taylor, then on 58, off the bowling of Ratcliffe — a late stand-in for Lewis, who had a sore neck and was badly missed — words were directed at the batsman and Stewart, keeping wicket for Surrey, and umpire Burgess stepped on each other's toes in their efforts to calm things down. When Ratcliffe dismissed Taylor two overs later, he sent him on his way with what looked like a few choice words.

That Sussex lost in the end — by 11 runs — was almost beside the point. Victory would not have enabled them to qualify for the quarter-finals, or denied Surrey a place. They were playing for pride and, after their woeful showing at Lord's last week, when they mistakenly left out Newell, they well and truly rediscovered it. Their total of 299 was only four short of the highest by a team batting second in this competition and losing.

One of their pleasures was to take runs off Salisbury, Khan's more illustrious predecessor, who left them during the winter, but he had the last laugh. He came back for a second spell in the heat of the battle, stuck to bowling over the wicket and at the stumps (unlike Khan), and for three overs staunched the flow of runs.

Then, in his penultimate over, he bowled Newell, indulging in a mighty heave, and in his last bowled Athey and Phillips and had Khan leg-before. In the space of six balls he had claimed four wickets and Sussex, on 270 for eight, looked finished. Even then, Jarvis refused to give up and lifted Ben Hollioake for six, four and four in the penultimate over.

With 12 required from eight balls, Robinson provided Brown with another run out, wandering aimlessly up the pitch. It was an inappropriately daft end to a noble effort.

GRAHAM MORRIS



Butcher, the Surrey batsman, beaten by a ball from Phillips, manages to regain his ground before Moores whips off the bails

Hayden plays decisive role

BY JACK BAILEY

THE PARKS (British Universities won toss): Hampshire (2pts) beat British Universities by seven wickets

A DAY shot through with showers and accompanied by a bland pitch — though batsmen had to watch out for the odd ball which kept low — saw bat dominate ball in this game between teams without hope of further progress towards the Benson and Hedges Cup. But honour was at stake and, for the Universities, the possible cachet of two victories this season over county teams, should they pull off a win.

It was not to be. Despite a fine ceantury by Tim Hodgson, of Durham University and Essex, and an innings which went far beyond his pinch-hitting role from Umer Rashid, of whom Middlesex think highly as a bowler, they had neither the fire-power nor the experience to combat the weighty batting of Matthew Hayden, or run-a-ball Robin Smith, following on a half-century from Giles White.

Cheered on by the Hampshire team as though it were the cup final itself, Hayden took full toll of Rashid's wayward left-arm slow bowling, went to his first century for his new county from 111 balls and, more than anyone, was responsible for Hampshire squeezing home. It was a near thing between him and Hodgson for the gold award, but Hayden's accurate bowling had also earned him two wickets and it went to him.

Hodgson should be nurtured by Essex, the county for whom he has already made the odd appearance. His 60 in the same competition against Kent was promising; yesterday, he played with rare maturity, at the same time plundering the Hampshire attack for all it was worth. His left-handed partnership with Rashid realised 168 from 32 overs and although Rashid's was the greater share, Hodgson was no slouch, certainly looked less vulnerable on his way to being sixth out. By then the score was in the heady realms of 266.

Rashid was promoted in the order to swing the bat and to take advantage of the short leg-side boundary, with Maru turning the ball into him. Good tactics, which succeeded more comprehensively than even Singh, the Universities captain, could have hoped. Rashid not so much damaged Maru, as take the rest of the Hampshire attack apart. His 82 came from 100 balls, interrupted by two showers, and with Hodgson's sterling effort, laid the foundations for a handsome total, though, as it transpired, not quite handsome enough.

Sound start by Somerset

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IT IS 16 years since Middlesex last failed to win a match in the qualifying rounds of the Benson and Hedges Cup. In that year, three of their matches were abandoned. This season, they have already been beaten three times.

Yesterday, they yielded half-centuries to Michael Burns and Peter Bowler that helped give Somerset the opportunity of making certain of a place in the quarter-finals.

Burns's innings of 54 included a memorable six driven over cover point off Fraser. He was in for 72 balls and struck five fours before skying a catch to mid-on.

Bowler was unbeaten on 54, including seven fours, and Somerset on 172 for four, when the game was finally halted on a rain-interrupted day. Only 38 overs were possible.

Nick Knight, captain of Warwickshire in the absence of Tim Munton, was left frustrated as rain postponed the game against Derbyshire at Derby until today. The match is his only chance to bat in one-day cricket before the England selectors pick the squad for the Texaco Trophy series against Australia.

Knight broke a finger playing for England in New Zealand, but told David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, that he would be fit for the first Texaco game at Headingley on May 22. "I have to score some runs to put myself in with a chance of being picked," Knight said.

The quarter-final draw will be held at 8.15am on Wednesday, May 14 and not Tuesday, May 13 as originally scheduled. The draw will be covered by BBC Radio 5 Live.

TABLES

Group A

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Yorkshire	5	4	1	0	8	16 13
Derbyshire	4	3	1	0	6	3 55
Lancashire	5	3	2	0	6	-1 50
Warwickshire	4	2	2	0	4	18 97
Worcestershire	5	2	3	0	4	-3.90
Minor Counties	5	0	5	0	0	-28 56

Group B

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Leicestershire	4	3	1	0	6	18 15
Northants	4	3	1	0	6	9.20
Durham	4	2	2	0	4	14 74
Notts	3	1	2	0	2	-13 07
Scotland	3	0	3	0	0	-51 27

Group C

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Surrey	5	4	1	0	8	21 19
Kent	4	4	0	0	8	9 85
Glouos	4	2	2	0	4	7 06
Sussex	5	2	3	0	4	-0 51
Hampshire	5	1	4	0	2	-15 50
British Univs	5	1	4	0	2	-18 57

Group D

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Essex	3	3	0	0	6	8 54
Somerset	3	2	1	0	4	37 17
Glamorgan	4	2	2	0	4	-6 83
Ireland	3	1	2	0	2	-32 62
Middlesex	3	0	3	0	0	-6 00

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

BUTTERMERE VILLAGE, Cumbria: Buttermere Selbeck Horseshoe fell race (9.4M, 4,250ft). Men: 1, M Roberts (Cumbria) 1hr 26min 05sec; 2, M Kinch (Cheshire) 1:28.21; 3, A Bowness (Cumbria) 1:29:21; 4, B Burns (Lancashire) 1:30:57; 5, G Dennis (Yorkshire) 1:31:11; 6, S Bootr. (Cumbria) 1:32:06. Team: 1, Cumbria 10pts; 2, Yorkshire 21; 3, Lancashire 27; 4, North Eastern Counties 44; 5, Glodal Manchester 47; 6, Cheshire 57. Club team: Borrowdale.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Texas 8 Boston 6; Detroit 11 Cleveland 3; Baltimore 9 Seattle 5; New York Yankees 5 Kansas City 2; Chicago White Sox 8 Oakland 5; Milwaukee 5 Anaheim 2; Toronto 3 Minnesota 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 6 Houston 3; Philadelphia 5 Colorado 1; Atlanta 8 Pittsburgh 2; New York Mets 6 St Louis 4; Montreal 6 Los Angeles 3 (in 10ms); San Diego 5 Cincinnati 4 (in 11ms); San Francisco 11 Chicago Cubs 5.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA). Play-offs: Semi-finals: Eastern Conference: New York 77 Miami 73 (New York lead best-of-seven series 2-1); Chicago 89 Atlanta 80 (Chicago lead series 3-1). Western Conference: Houston 110 Seattle 108 (OT) (Houston lead 3-1).

CRICKET

ABBOT ALE NCA COMPETITION: Second round: Lancaster 193-3 Didsbury 86.

FOOTBALL

Sunday's late results

SPANISH LEAGUE: Atletico Madrid 2 Athletic Bilbao 1; Sporting Gijon 2 Celta Vigo 1; Seville 5 Hercules 0; Logrones 2 Real Betis 1; Compostela 2 Rayo Vallecano 1; Tenerife 2 Oviedo 2; Zaragoza 1 Espanol 0; Real Sociedad 2 Racing Santander 0.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Estrela Amadora 2 Salgueiros 1; Sporting Lisbon 2 Chaves 0; Espino 0 Setubal 3; Farense 2 Gil Vicente 1; Rio Ave 1 Braga 0; Leca 1 Vitoria Guimaraes 1; Porto 2 Belenenses 1.

WORLD CUP: Concacaf qualifying zone: Costa Rica 3 Jamaica 1 (in San Jose).

GOLF

THE OXFORDSHIRE, Thame: Benson and Hedges International: Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 276: B Longer (Ger) 70, 66, 71, 69; 278: I Woosnam 70, 68, 70, 70; 280: L Westwood 69, 69, 70, 72; 282: P Harrington 73, 67, 71, 71; 283: R Karlsson (Swe) 71, 71, 70, 71; K Veinola (Fin) 70, 69, 71, 73; 284: P Sjoland (Swe) 69, 69, 74, 72; B May (US) 69, 72, 71, 72; F Tamaud (Fr) 75, 69, 67, 73; D Clarke 69, 68, 72, 75; E Romero (Arg) 73, 68, 71, 72; 285: T Bjorn (Den) 71, 70, 70, 74; 286: D Gilford 71, 72, 70, 73; G Turner (NZ) 67, 68, 77, 74; C O'Connor Jr 68, 74, 70, 74; J Spence 71, 73, 68, 74; 288: N Fasth (Swe) 70, 72, 72, 74; R Goosen (SA) 69, 67, 76, 76; 289: A Oldcorn 75, 69, 74, 71; M Mouland 74, 67, 74, 74; 290: W Westner (SA) 73, 70, 72, 75; M James 73, 70, 71, 76; 291: P Hedblom (Swe) 71, 73, 73, 74; I Pyman 72, 69, 75, 75; M A Jiménez (Sp) 72, 69, 75, 75; S Luna (Sp) 70, 70, 75, 76; C Sumpson (Sp) 70, 71, 74, 76; P McGinley 72, 71, 72, 76.

DULUTH, Georgia: BellSouth Atlanta Classic: Leading final scores: (United States unless stated): 274: S McCarron 70, 69, 66, 69; 277: L Janzen 69, 70, 70, 68; B Henninger 70, 71, 68, 68; D Duval 66, 68, 73, 72; 278: H Sutton 69, 74, 69, 67; G Norman (Aus) 70, 67, 73, 68; N Price (Zim) 66, 67, 75, 70; D Tomp 68, 68, 70, 71; 280: L Sutherland 71, 71, 70, 68; B Fleisher 70, 72, 70, 68; D Pooley 64, 70, 77, 69; J Haas 68, 71, 71, 70; A Magee 70, 71, 68, 71; 282: K Fergus 71, 69, 73, 69; R Freeman 70, 74, 69, 69; S Gump 69, 71, 70, 72; K Gibson 73, 69, 68, 72; R Estes 68, 74, 68, 72; 283: K Perry 70, 73, 72, 68; R Tway 72, 68, 74, 69; L Mize 71, 70, 72, 70; T Perrice 70, 69, 73, 71; G Day 69, 72, 69, 73; B Glasson 69, 70, 69, 75.

OLD HICKORY, Tennessee: LPGA Sara Lee Classic: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 207: T-J Myers 70, 67, 70, (Myers won at fifth extra hole); L Kean 69, 72, 66; K Harvey (Can) 67, 72, 68, 206: D Eggeling 71, 69, 66, K Robbins 70, 68, 72, 210: D Dorman 71, 71, 68; J Stephenson (Aus) 70, 72, 68, 211: L Kiggens 73, 72, 66, E Wicoff 71, 74, 66; A Read 73, 69, 69; A Dibos (Sp) 72, 68, 71; H Alfredsson (Swe) 66, 74, 71; K Saiki 70, 69, 72. Other scores: 214: M Lunn (Aus) 71, 73, 70; D Richard (Can) 72, 71, 71, C Koch (Swe) 74, 67, 73; 215: C Sorenstam (Swe) 73, 72, 70; 216: G Graham (Can) 74, 72, 70; L Hackney (GB) 73, 73, 70; S Strudwick (GB) 71, 75, 70; E Dahloff (Swe) 74, 71, 71; J Lidback (Fin) 69, 71, 76; 218: S Little (SA) 70, 73, 75, S Croce (It) 71, 71, 76.

GYMNASTICS

GUILDFORD: British women's championship: Apparatus finals: Seniors: Vault: 1, G Cull (Heathrow) 9.212pts; 2, A Roeder (Basildon) 9.025. Bars: 1, J Cox (Heathrow) 8.7; 2, G Fuchs (Harrow) 8.5. Beam: 1, Fuchs 8.725, 2, Cull 8.6, Floor exercises: 1 Reeder 9.025; 2, J Mortimer (Liverpool) 8.5. Juniors: Vault: 1, H Murdock (N Ire) 9.097; 2, G Campbell (Falkirk) 8.9. Bars: 1, M Wilcox (Bristol) 9.15, 2, H Murdock 8.4. Beam: 1, Wilcox 9.525; 2, E Williams (Liverpool) 8.15. Floor exercises: 1 Wilcox 9.325; 2, Murdock 8.6. 12-13s: Vault: 1, K Lennon (Leatherhead and Dorking) 9.050, 2, C Gilbert (Basildon) 8.7. Bars: 1, Gilbert 8.35; 2, Lennon 7.575. Beam: 1, Lennon 8.225; 2, S Horne (Wessex) 8.150. Floor exercises: 1, Lennon 8.8; 2, J Sanders (Dynamo) 8.575.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Play-offs: Semi-finals: Eastern Conference: Philadelphia 6 Buffalo 3 (Philadelphia win best-of-seven series 4-1), New York Rangers 2 New Jersey 1 (OT; Rangers win series 4-1). Western Conference: Colorado 4 Edmonton 3 (Colorado win series 4-1).

MOTOR RACING

RIO DE JANEIRO: CART Rio 400 race: 1, P Tracy (Can, Penske-Mercedes) 133 laps 2hr 11min 44sec; 2, G Moore (Can, Reynard-Mercedes) 133 laps, at 1 805sec; 3, S Pruett (US, Reynard-Ford); 4, A Zanardi (It, Reynard-Honda); 5, R Boesel (Br Reynard-Ford), 6, B Horta (US, Reynard-Ford); 7, A Unser Jr (US, Penske-Mercedes), 8, M Blundell (GB, Reynard-Mercedes); 9, J Vasser (US, Reynard-Honda); 10, G de Ferran (Br, Reynard-Honda) all same lap.

SILVERSTONE. FIA GT championship: Second round: (87 laps): 1, P Kox (Holl) and R Ravaglia (It) BMW-McLaren 3hr 30min 27 077sec, 2, B Schneider and A Wurz (Ger) Mercedes 3:20:27 700; 3, J J Lehto (Fin) and S Soper (GB) BMW-McLaren 3 21.46 116; 4, A Gilbert-Scott (GB) and P-H Raphanel (Fr) Gulf-McLaren 3.22:05 92. 5, H Stuck (Ger) and T Boutsen (Bel) Porsche 3.22 08 717.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Bradford Bulls 38 St Helens 18.

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Spain 25 Portugal 18 (in Madrid).

SNOOKER

DR MARTENS EUROPEAN LEAGUE: J Higgins (Scot) drew with S Davis (Eng) 4-4; S Hendry (Scot) drew with R O'Sullivan (Eng) 4-4.

SQUASH

LAS VEGAS: United States Women's Open: Final: S FitzGerald (Aus) bt L Irving (Aus) 9-3, 9-1, 9-4.

TENNIS

ROME: Italian Open men's tournament: First round: T Muster (Austria) bt M Martelli (It) 6-3, 6-2; C Woodruff (US) bt D Prinosil (Ger) 6-3, 6-2; M Goellner (Ger) bt J Stark (US) 7-6, 6-4; M Rosset (Switz) bt J Gunthardt (Fr) 7-5, 6-4; E Alvarez (Sp) bt F Clavet (Sp) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3; R Krajicek (Holl) bt D Nargiso (It) 7-5, 6-3; A Portas (Sp) bt G Rusedski (GB) 7-6, 7-6; K Alami (Mor) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 6-2, 6-0; A Boetsch (Fr) bt A O'Brien (US) 7-6, 6-4; J Siemerink (Holl) bt J Tarango (US) 7-5, 6-3; F Santoro (Fr) bt R Furlan (It) 6-4, 6-1; C Ruud (Nor) bt F Fetterlein (Den) 6-4, 7-5, A Corretja (Sp) bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-0, 6-3; M Larsson (Swe) bt W Ferreira (SA) 4-6, 7-5, 7-6; C Poline (Fr) bt B Black (Zim) 6-4, 6-3.

BERLIN. German Open women's tournament: First round: J Wiesner (Austria) br L Courtois (Bel) 6-0, 6-2; R Dragomir (Rom) bt N Zvereva (Bela) 7-6, 6-2, M S Lorenzo (Sp) bt H Nagyova (Slovakia) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; C Rubin (US) bt P Hy-Boulais (Can) 7-5, 6-2; G Fiorachmi (It) bt P Suarez (Arg) 7-6, 4-6, 6-1; S Appelmans (Bel) bt Y Makarova (Russ) 6-2, 7-6, M Pierna (Sp) bt T Panova (Russ) 6-2, 7-6, M-J Fernandez (US) bt F Portois (It) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

CORAL SPRINGS, Florida: Men's tournament: Final: J Stollenberg (Aus) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-0, 2-6, 7-5.

CARDIFF: LTA Satellite tournament: First round (GB unless stated): P Lengyardt (Den) bt N Weal 6-1, 6-2; D Rodd (US) bt C Beecher 7-5, 6-2; M Lee bt P Hand 3-6, 7-6, 6-2; M Bok (Holl) bt S Barron (Ire) 6-1, 6-3.

WATER POLO

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Sutton 14 Polytechnic 7. Second division: Bedford 5 Invicta 6, Chester 8 Cheltenham 4; Paragon 9 Welsh Wanderers 6, Exeter 8 Tyldesley 10, Paragon 10 Cheltenham 5.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 47

MANOAH
(b) Father of Samson. His wife was barren but an angel told him she would bear a deliverer of Israel. Only when the angel came a second time did Manoah and his wife know that their visitor was a messenger from God. Rembrandt did many drawings for a picture of Manoah sacrificing, but the resulting work (Dresden Art Gallery) has been regarded by art historians as only very partially his.

TABITHA
(a) In Greek, Dorcas. A woman of Joppa, full of good works, who was restored to life by Peter after he was shown all the coats and other garments which she had made for others. Whence a Dorcas is a sewing-bee. Peter raising her from the dead is among Masaccio's scenes from the apostle's life in the Brancacci chapel in S. Maria del Carmine, Florence.

AHINOAM
(c) A woman of Jezreel and one of David's wives. Together with Abigail she was taken to wife by David after his first wife Michal was taken away from him by her father Saul. Ahinoam was the mother of Ammon who raped his half-sister Tamar.

SALOME
(b) Mother of the apostles James and John, sons of Zebedee. She was one of the women at the foot of the cross at the Crucifixion, and, according to Mark, also one of those who took spices to anoint his body as soon as the Sabbath ended, finding the tomb empty.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qa6+! Ka8 2 ... Kxa6 2 Bc8 checkmate) 2 Rd8+ Bb8 3 Rxb8+ Kxb8 4 Qc8 checkmate.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Benson and Hedges Cup
11.0, 50 overs
Group A
DERBY: Derbyshire v Warwickshire
Group B
EDINBURGH (Grange CC): Scotland v Nottinghamshire
Group C
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Kent
Group D
DOWNPATRICK: Ireland v Essex
LORD'S: Middlesex v Somerset
BAIN HOGG INSURANCE TROPHY (one day): Old Bristolians (Westbury): Gloucestershire v Glamorgan, Maidstone: Kent v Essex.
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four): Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire; Sussex v Surrey.

RUGBY LEAGUE

International match
France v Ireland
(at Bondoufle Stadium, Evry, 7.0) .....

FOOTBALL

kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Uefa under-18 championship
Intermediary round
Second leg
Portugal (1) v England (2)
(at Angra de Heroesmo, 5.0) .

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Manchester United v Stoke (at Gigg Lane, 7.0)
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division (6.30): Cray v Herne Bay; Crockenhill v Slade Green; Greenwich v Deal.
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division (7.0): Richmond Swifts v Meir Ka; West Midland Fire Service v Studley Bld.
INTERLINK MIDLAND INVITATION CUP: Final: Bridgnorth v Oldbury
OTHER MATCHES: Arsenal v Rangers (8.0); Sunderland v Liverpool (8.0).
UNDER 15 INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England v Ireland (at Ewood Park, 7.15)

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday May 17
Coupon No. fixture, forecast

VICTORIA
SECOND DIVISION
1 E Richmond v Regent 2
2 Glen Eira v Bell Park 1
3 Knox C v Altona C X
4 Mooroolbk v Ringwd 2
5 Oakleigh v E Brunsw'k X
6 OS Waverley v E Altona2
THIRD DIVISION
7 Chelsea v S Werribee X
8 Diamond v N Coburg 1
9 Geelong v Fitzroy 1
10 Keilor v Cranbourne 2
11 Melbourne v Nun'w'dg 2
12 Pascoe v Barnyule 1
13 S Sp'gvale v S Cauf'd 1
FOURTH DIVISION
14 Clifton v Geelong R 2
15 Lalor v Moreland 1
16 Monbulk v Keysboro 2
17 Sandr'gm v Stonnton 1
18 Sunbury v Langwarrin 2
19 Wtt mst'n v Seaf'd U 1
FIFTH DIVISION
20 Ballarat v Lyndale 2
21 Croydon v Mitcham X
22 Dowton v Knox 2
23 S Wyantmo v Brandon 1
24 Spr'gvale C v Melton X
25 Sunshine v Endeavour 1
WEST AUSTRALIA
PREMIER DIVISION
26 Bayswater v Altona 2
27 Dianella v Perth 2
28 Inglewood v Fremantle X
29 Kingsway v Sorrento 2
30 Morley v Knights 2
31 Spearwood v Sant'g M X
FIRST DIVISION
32 Armadale v Southside 2
33 Balcatta v Rockingham 2
34 Balga v Univ WA 1
35 N Lake v Cockburn X
36 Q Park v Bassend'n 2
37 Stirling S v Ashf'd 2
38 Warnbro v Perth C 1
SOUTH AUSTRALIA LGE
PREMIER DIVISION
39 Camp'll n v Woodville 1
40 Olympians v B Eagles X
41 Salisbury v Adelaide R 2
42 WT Birkalla v P Lion 1
FIRST DIVISION
43 Adelaide C v P Hills X
44 Cumberl d v Elizabeth 2
45 Enfield v Plympton 1
QUEENSLAND LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION
46 Annerley v Latrobe X
47 Bayside v Mogo X
48 Darra v N Pine 1
49 South Side v Samford 1

DRAWS (home teams): Knox City, Oakleigh Chelsea, Croydon Springvale Condors, Inglewood, Spearwood, North Lake, Olympians, Adelaide City Annerley, Bayside
BEST DRAWS: Croydon Inglewood, North Lake, Annerley, Bayside
AWAYS: Regent, East Altona, Nunawading, Keysborough, Lyndale, Perth Knights, Ashfield
HOMES: Glen Eira, Pascoe Vale, Lalor, South Wantirna, Balga, Wanneroo Campb'town, WT Bankstown, Darra South Side.

☐ Vince Wright

RUGBY UNION

Grewcock called up to tour with England

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

COVENTRY'S late bid for a first-division place may have failed but it has helped propel Danny Grewcock into the England touring party that leaves for Argentina on Sunday. Grewcock and the experienced David Baldwin, from Sale, were named yesterday as replacements for the injured Martin Bayfield and John Fowler.

The decision to take Grewcock, 21, is a better option than the consideration given to the comparative veterans, Nigel Redman and Matt Poole. He represents the next generation and will benefit from the experience while Baldwin, 31, wins the place vacated by Fowler, his club colleague, as the result of his consistency throughout this and other seasons.

Since Garath Archer, of Newcastle, is the only capped lock in the party, one of Baldwin, Grewcock or Martin Haag, of Bath, has the prospect of an unexpected international debut.

Wasps, who contribute four players to the party, offer international experience of a different kind to their young reserves in the Sanyo Cup meeting with a World XV at Twickenham on May 24. The only guest player in the league champion's XV is Mike Hall, the Cardiff centre.

The world team, drawn from seven countries, includes a former Wasp, in Nick Popplewell, who is serving a suspension. Popplewell, the Newcastle and Ireland prop banned by a Rugby Football Union disciplinary tribunal after a punching incident during a game against Bedford last month, is able to play because the match falls outside the domestic season.

His temporary colleagues include Waisale Serevi, the Fijian stand-off half, four of whose team-mates will play for the Barbarians in the finals of the Middlesex sevens at Twickenham this Saturday.

WASPS: J Utton, S Rowe, M Hall, L Scrase, K Logan, G Rees, M Wood, A Black, S Mitchell, W Green, M Greenwood, D Cronin, A Reed, M White, P Scrivener.

WORLD SQUAD: Backs: T van Rensberg (SA), D Campese (Aus), E Rush (NZ), J Kirwan (NZ), Y Yoshida (Japan), P Sella (Fr), W Serevi (Fij), L Arbizu (Arg), G Bachop (NZ), A N Other. Forwards: N Popplewell (Ire), B Swart (SA), D Theron (SA), J-M Gonzales (Fr), J Dalton (SA), J Strydom (SA), O Roumat (Fre), A Benazzi (Fr), W Olahengaue (Aus), J Joseph (NZ), F Pienaar (SA).

IN BRIEF

Ferreira loses his cool after defeat

WAYNE FERREIRA, a semi-finalist for the past two years, made a quick exit from the Italian Open tennis championships yesterday, squandering five match points on his way to a first-round defeat by Magnus Larsson, of Sweden. The ninth seed angrily threw his racket at a chair after failing to keep his nerve at the vital stages of a 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 upset on the grandstand court.

The court proved a graveyard for seeds as Australia's Mark Philippoussis lost in straight sets to Karim Alami, of Morocco, ranked 68 in the world. The No 16 seed was beaten 6-2, 6-0.

Golden rows

Rowing: A selection of juniors in line for possible Great Britain vests this year won a total of eight gold medals at Munich Regatta last weekend. Seventeen nations were present and the result was the best achieved at Munich since the British began attendance in 1994. Mark Banks, chief junior coach, said: "The standard is so hot at the moment."

Five of the gold medals came in sculling events.

Norman bids

Golf: Greg Norman will compete in the Lancôme Trophy at St Nom-la-Bretèche near Paris from September 11 to 14. Norman has never won this event, his best finishes being third in 1983 and 1988.

Siddall hopes

Tennis: Shirli-Ann Siddall is one step away from joining fellow Britons, Sam Smith and Julie Pullin, in the first round proper of the Welsh International Open ladies tournament in Cardiff. Siddall, ranked 229th in the world, followed up her triumph over the American, Debbie Graham with an even more impressive 6-2, 7-5 win against Sonya Jeyaseelan, of Canada, ranked No 116.

Champion duel

Darts: Richie Burnett, the 1995 Embassy world champion, is to meet the reigning WDC world champion, Phil Taylor, in a special match at the Circus Tavern, Purfleet, Essex, on Sunday, June 29.

THE TIMES Mees Pierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE
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COMPANY GOLF DAYS
RESULTS

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
25 APR	CRESCO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES LTD D GOODING 29 * D HUBBARD 28 * M BIRCHALL 32 * J HIGGINS 30	ROTHERHAM	129
25 APR	WASTE OILS LTD J CACKETT 33 * D LAWLESS 31 * P TRUDI 29 * B SNOWDON 28	HURLSTON HALL	121
28 APR	CARNAUD METALBOX CLOSURES PLC C MOYES 38 D BOON 38 J BARFOOT 36 P RANSOM 34	YEOVIL	147
30 APR	BARCLAYS BANK SOUTH EAST REGION G DOWNING 33 * J SMITH 38 * B HARTLEY 37 * B BEDINGFIELD 35	KINGSWOOD	143
30 APR	PDFM LIMITED M MURRAY 34 * G THORBURN 38 * B WEDDELL 37 * D BADCOCK 29	SUNNINGDALE	138
30 APR	ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT TOBACCO SPECIALISTS A WILSON 35 R BEAZLEY 32 * J REYNOLDS 33 * R CLARK 32	COPT HEATH	132
1 MAY	N I C S SPORTS ASSOCIATION S KENNEDY 37 D MURPHY 36 F MCFERRAN 35 R BLACK 35	ROCKMOUNT	143
1 MAY	GENERALE DES EAUX T SMITH 34 T COLEMAN 32 S TOLHURST 31 E LIMTOTT 31	THE BELFRY	128
2 MAY	JPS (OFFICE SUPPLIES) LTD P COHEN 38 J COHEN 35 * N LAWDEN 39 * R LONG 37	MOOR PARK	149
2 MAY	CAMERASCAN CCTV LTD K MCDONNELL 32 * D THOMPSON 34 * B BROOME 39 * P BROOME 38	DUMMER	143
2 MAY	THE VIRTUAL OFFICE GROUP I CHRISTIE 35 * R ANDREW 33 * B BROWN 34 * G RUDDLE 35	CASTLE ROYLE	137
2 MAY	PRINT AT THE BULL LTD J BAMBERY 36 P ELLIS 38 * P LEICESTER 38 * P RATHE 31	HESKETH	129
6 MAY	AQUA-GAS (VALVES & FITTINGS) LTD V JENSEN 38 * P DAWSON 37 * G LEYLAND 35 * D LEGRICE 35	NORTHAMPTON	145
6 MAY	WILLIS CORROON GROUP PLC C DENNIS 37 N COLLINS 34 * K WARD 36 * N BROWN 37	FELDSTOWE FERRY	144
7 MAY	WEATHERALL GREEN & SMITH D BOUSFIELD 35 * P HARRINGTON 36 * C MAKEPEACE 34 * N KEATES 35	SCARCROFT	140
8 MAY	COFFIN MEW & CLOVER K HAYWARD 39 N MATTHEWS 29 * J PURDY 29 * J FARRALL 29	WATERLOOVILLE	117

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National Final shown on SKY sports

March 31, the group had £12 billion under management.

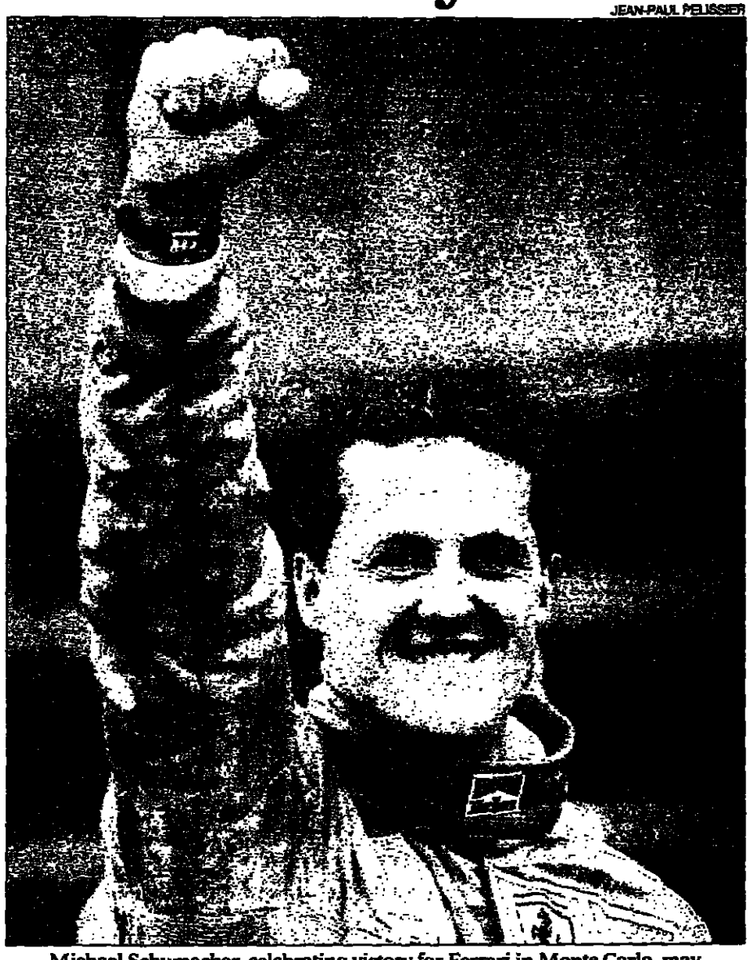
ber 31. The shares closed up 7½p to 75p.

3i Group plc and 3i plc, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP are registered in the conduct of investment business as 3i.

Growing challenge underlined by Schumacher's triumph

Ferrari's industry is rewarded

Rob Hughes on how the Italian team got back on track by leading the way in Monte Carlo


JEAN-PAUL PELISSIER

Michael Schumacher, celebrating victory for Ferrari in Monte Carlo, may soon be joined on the podium by his ambitious younger brother, Ralf, below

Daybreak at Maranello, the Ferrari factory near Bologna. After the deluge of Monte Carlo, the calm and the industry returns to Formula One: even a victory that put Ferrari on top of the constructors' ratings for the first time since 1983 has to be deemed a transient moment after only five of the 17 grands prix have passed.

On Sunday evening there had been euphoria, but such feelings soon run out of gas in the ruthless, relentless world of motor racing. "Yesterday gave me very great pleasure," Luca Di Montezemolo, the president of Ferrari, said. "But we have to keep our feet on the ground, the race is not yet won."

Something similar had been said by Jean Todt, the Ferrari race team manager, even as the trophy in Monaco was passed between his drivers. "Before you think of tomorrow, you have to think of today," the diminutive Frenchman said, his hair tousled and his demeanour ruffled after being lifted into an embrace by Michael Schumacher, the winner of the 55th Monaco Grand Prix, and Eddie Irvine, who slid the second scarlet Ferrari into third place.

Todt explained: "It's a long, long way. We have been trying to achieve something together for almost four years, we are slowly getting there, but one day we are heroes, the next we could be nothing. We have to keep our heads clear. I don't expect to be the champion team this year, but hopefully next."

So, from the Italian president of Ferrari down south, to the drivers who are German and Northern Irish and the manager, who is French, there is circumspection.

They all know how fickle grand-prix racing can be. They have only to look at Damon Hill, suffering in his reign as world champion, without a point, without a finish, without a drop of faith in his new Arrows team. A $7 million (about £4.3 million) test driver whose promises appear bankrupt, whose car crashed out on lap two.

Owners of grand-prix cars tend to change drivers quicker than playboys change mistresses, thus the brooding Hill has already been asked time and again this troubled season where he will go next.

The face of failure in a season not yet half-run. To that, more alarmingly, one can add Benetton, so recently top of the pile. The experienced Benetton drivers, Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger, are struggling for reliability, for inspiration. Benetton have lost their technical director and designer as well as their



former world champion, Schumacher, to Ferrari (that will teach Flavio Briatore, the Benetton director-general, to steal the Ferrari cook, Luigi). But, the real shift in power in motor racing, given its turn of the lottery wheel under Monte Carlo's weeping skies, centres on Williams versus Ferrari.

Williams appeared unprofessional in being caught unprepared for the downpour that had been forecast. The track temperature fell from 31C during the Sunday morning warm-up to 17C by the 2.30pm race start. Without sufficient rubber, Jacques Villeneuve and Heinz-Harald Frentzen were never at the races.

Indeed, in the driving mirror of the supreme motorist, Michael Schumacher, could be seen, for at least part of the race, an image of the future. It had a familiar look, for Ralf Schumacher, 21, in his first Formula One series, is handling the Peugeot power of the Jordan in a manner that suggests the day when Schumachers are first and second on the front line of the grid is by no means incredible. Schumacher the younger needs to learn the tracks to shed the French nickname "le chien fou [mad dog]" to follow in big brother's treadmarks.

They say lightning never strikes twice, but the rain that turned Monte Carlo into a skid-pan returned twice in successive years. The drive around the houses is surreal enough without this interference, this capricious fall from the heavens. But racing drivers must cope with it and must withstand the sometimes withering tongue of those who rule the sport.

> 'We have to keep our feet on the ground. The race is not yet won'

When the Stewart team complained about having to put their motorhome and garage high on the hill, they called it Alcatraz. Bernie Ecclestone, the man rumoured to be contemplating floating Formula One racing for £2 billion, retorted: "Stewart always wanted to be close to the royals, I've put him up there."

Just as droll was the put-down from Max Mosley, the president of the FIA, responding to Villeneuve's taunts that motor racing, with its increasing safety precautions, is beginning to lose the fun and the challenge. "Jacques suggests that all racing drivers were mediocre until he came along ... " the president of the sport's governing body said.

Harsh words and harsh twists and turns in the championship. For the record, Michael Schumacher believes that Williams might outpower Ferrari at the next grand prix, the Spanish, in Barcelona, but warns that Ferrari are preparing improvements that should come before the Montreal race next month.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A gamble worth the risk

Home Ground: Deadly Inheritance
BBC2, 7.30pm

The first in a series of documentaries from the BBC regions tells how a potential cancer victim decided on a brave and radical remedy. Julia Booth, in her late thirties with three young daughters, comes from a family where breast cancer has been common. It killed her mother at 43 and genetic tests suggest an 85 per cent chance that Booth will inherit the disease. She is determined to see her children grow up and although perfectly healthy at the moment, she decides to have both her breasts removed. Doubts and complications follow, as differing medical advice pulls Booth first one way and then another, but she finally opts for a double mastectomy with reconstructive surgery. Made with tact and sensitivity, even when it enters the operating theatre, the film concludes on an optimistic note.

Moving People
Channel 4, 8.00pm

As moving home is supposed to lie not far behind bereavement on the scale of distress, there is an element of *Schadenfreude* in watching other people going through it. The impression is reinforced by John Peel's chirpy links, delivered from a rustic paradise he clearly has no intention of leaving. Sure enough, the main point of tonight's first story is the frustration of last-minute hitches as the moving date gets put back and back. But credit the show with variety. Three nuns leaving a 200-year-old priory in Whitby for council flats in Dundee is one of those quirky stories that never fail, while the mood changes abruptly in following a young Cornishman's move from a house to a bungalow. He is doing it for his wife, who is disabled with spinal cancer. But he knows she may not live to see their new home.

Touching Evil
ITV, 9.00pm

When Ronald Hinks, the child killer, was found dead in last week's episode that seemed to close the case. But do not be too sure. This is a show that likes to leave loose ends. Meanwhile our serial crime busters move on to a fresh challenge. Hardly have the opening credits rolled than three patients have died mysteriously within half an hour of each other at a London hospital. With near-death experiences at its heart, this proves to be a scenario well out of the usual run, so full marks to the writer, Paul Abbott, for ingenuity. The pity is that he has not made his detectives as interesting as his plots. Members of the Robson Green fan club will disagree, but DI Creegan is not a Jack Frost. Nor has Nicola Walker, so good in the disappointing *Chalk*, so far been able to make much of DI Taylor.


Prince Michael presents (ITV, times vary)

Victoria and Albert
ITV, times vary

When a member of the Royal Family turns television presenter, you want to know how good he is and what insights he brings to his subject. Although a trifle stiff and formal, Prince Michael of Kent is a worthy guide to the lives of his great great grandparents, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Tonight's film, the first of two, concentrates on Albert. Apart from showing a previously unseen photograph, Prince Michael mainly recapitulates familiar material. But he reminds us of what an admirable figure Albert was. He inspired the Great Exhibition, built Osborne House and rebuilt Balmoral. He sorted out the Army after the Crimean War disasters and showed practical concern for the poor. Although his marriage to Victoria was arranged, it became a love match. She adored him and was devastated by his early death.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

The Spud Unjacketed
Radio 2, 9.30pm

Students of media fashion will be aware that nobody ever won a Sony award by making a programme about a potato, to which I can only add: more's the pity. This programme is terrific fun, especially for people with the habit of introducing obscure facts at parties. Not a lot of people know this, but German V-2 rockets were fuelled by a mixture of potato spirit and poteen. There is in the United States a newsletter called *Peelings*, for potato lovers everywhere: not a lot of people know that, either. Tonight's programme is presented by John Walters, who has more or less cornered the market in wittily informative programmes on both radio and television. His "well I never" tone of voice fits happily with the listeners' reaction.

Murray Walker's Grand Prix World
Radio 5 Live, 9.00pm

Formula One motor racing is a distinctly odd sport, thus it is only fitting that its public voice should belong to the distinctive (if not odd) Murray Walker. Hyberbole is, of course, the stock in trade of most sports commentators, but Walker is the only one who manages to speak in capital letters and italics at the same time, with verbal exclamation marks thrown in at the end of every sentence. But this programme, the first in a six-part series, brings us a more reflective Walker and it demonstrates that beyond the much-imitated voice is a man with a thorough knowledge of motor racing and its personalities. He is certainly an enthusiast, but the enthusiasm is supported by real understanding.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session 8.30 Digital Update with Rachel Rayniard 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Claire Sturgess 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Alex Lester 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 The Rock 'n' Roll Years with Brian Matthew 9.30 The Spud Unjacketed See Choice 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 Any Sporting Questions? The first of a new series live from the City Ground, Nottingham with Pat Murphy in the chair 9.00 Murray Walker's Grand Prix World. See Choice 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 6.00am Newshour 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 World Today 7.30 Anatomy of Addiction 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Touched with Fire 8.45 Good Relationship Guide 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Keep To The Path 9.30 Everywoman 10.00 Business 10.15 Sound Business 10.30 Literature File 10.45 Sport 11.30 On Screen 12.30pm Anatomy of Addiction 1.00 News in German 1.05 Business 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sport 2.00 Newshour 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.05 Sport 4.15 Keep To The Path 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Business 5.45 British Today 6.15 World Today 6.30 News in German 6.45 Sport 7.30 One Planet 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Megamix 9.00 Newshour 10.05 Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Live 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Megamix 1.30 Farming World 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Discovery 3.30 Meridian Live 4.05 Business 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 7.00 Mike Read 9.00 Hall of Fame Hour 10.00 Henry Kelly 1.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 7.00 Newsnight 7.30 Sonata 8.00 Singapore Week Evening Concert. Leong Yoon Pin (Glocoso-Largamente); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 23 in A major, K488); Verdi (The Four Seasons); Ippolitov-Ivanov (Symphony No 1 in E minor, Op 46) 10.00 Michael Mappin 2.00am Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Horne 6.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor); Debussy (La Damoiselle Elue); Shostakovich (Prelude and Fugue, Op 87 No 21); Janacek (Suite for String Orchestra); Haydn Wood (Variations on a Once Popular Humorous Song); Stravinsky (Symphony of Psalms)
9.00am Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Telemann (Concerto in A minor); Wolf (Italian Serenade; Im Frühling); Vaughan Williams (Symphony No 6)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Fiona Talkington. Includes Trad (Anicutis Draga); Haydn (Symphony No 62 in D); Geza Allega (Rapsodie Hongroise); Mozart (Horn Concerto in E flat, K495); Antti Sonninen (Laulu Onnesta); Liszt (Rakoczi March); Strauss (Sonatina No 1, Aus der Werkstaat eines Invaliden); Jean Wiener (Accordian Concerto)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Lehar
1.00pm Musica ad Rhenum. The Dutch early-music group, recorded at a concert given last year in Melk, Austria. Includes Vivaldi (Concerto for Two Flutes, RV533); Fux (Overture in G minor); Muffat (Concerto in E minor. Delerium Amoris); Quantz (Concerto Grosso in G)
1.50 Voices. Iain Burnside presents a programme of songs by Delius, Stenhammer and Sibelius in a concert given in 1992 at the Wigmore Hall in London by the soprano Barbara Bonney and the pianist Geoffrey Parsons (r)
2.35 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic, under Yan Pascal Tortelier, Cécile Ousset, piano. Bridge (Suite, The Sea); Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor); Roussel (Symphony No 3)
4.00 Spirit of the Age. Christopher Page and Ardis Butterfield present readings from Jean Renart's Romance of the Rose and music exploring May and spring (r)
5.00 Music Machine. Tommy Pearson joins a line dance with Stella Whyldon
5.15 In Tune, with Humphrey Carpenter. Includes D'Indy (Diptych Méditerranéen); Prokofiev (Violin Concerto No 1); Liszt (Vallée d'Obermann. Book One of Années de Pélerinage)
7.30 Live at Turner Sims. Paul Guiney introduces the third in a series of five recitals from the Turner Sims Hall in Southampton. Joachim Trio. Part (Adagio); Schumann (Piano Trio No 2 in F, Op 80)
8.10 The Music. The Last of the Habsburgs by James Hamilton-Paterson (3/5) 8.30 Concert part two. Tchaikovsky (Piano Trio in A minor, Op 50)
9.30 Conversations with Charles Rosen. Ivan Hewitt talks to the American pianist and author about the pleasures and difficulties of playing Bach at the piano (2/5)
9.50 Ulster Orchestra, under Ronald Corp. With Raphael Wallfisch, cello. Debussy, orch Caplet (Golliwog's Cakewalk, Suite Children's Corner); Caplet (Epiphanie); Martinu (Sinfonietta, La Jolla)
10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles profiles the French philosopher Jean Baudrillard who accuses the media of destroying a sense of reality. Plus the latest news from the Cannes Film Festival
11.30 Composer of the Week: Sibelius (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Richard Niles presents the the BBC Big Band with the guest musical director and solo trombonist Ian MacDougall
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 Festetics Quartet. Haydn (String Quartet in D minor, Op 9 No 4; String Quartet in C, Op 9 No 1) 1.45 Organ recital by Gerd Zacher 3.00 Schools 5.00 Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 A Moment's Liberty (2/3) 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Call Edward Stourton. Call 0171-580 4444 with your questions for the guest of the day
10.00 News; Weston East. Simon Weston explores the duties and lifestyles of the last British forces to be posted to Hong Kong (2/2)
10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 All In the Mind, with Professor Anthony Clare. Includes a therapy session for a person with a phobia of public speaking
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch
12.25pm Quote... Unquote. Nigel Rees chairs a new series of the quotations quiz. With Stephen Fry, Rula Lenska, Nigel Barley and Sir Bernard Ingham
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: She Hadda Fly. Based on an original idea by Margaret Wilkinson and Julia Darling. Two sisters from New York venture to Whitley Bay to run a cafe but one decides to search for real adventure. With Ann Mitchell, Jane Hollowood and Rosalind Bailey
2.30 Comparing Notes with Brian Kay. The state of ballet in Britain is discussed with the composer Brian Elias and the conductor Barry Wordsworth
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope at the Brighton Festival. Paul Vaughan reports from this year's festival which embraces the anniversaries of Schubert and Brahms
4.45 Short Story: A Bit of Company, by Colin Greenland. Read by Kerry Shale
5.00 PM, with Kevin Bocquet and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Minor Adjustment. The third episode of the six-part comedy about a family with a daughter who has Down's Syndrome. Written by Andy and Eric Merriman. Starring Peter Davison, Samantha Bond and Claire Russell (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Flie on 4. Jonathan Rugman reports on important issues at home and overseas
8.00 Science Now. Peter Evans investigates claims in a new book entitled The End of Science (r)
8.30 The Network. In the third of six programmes about the information age, Alun Lewis investigates the future of transport. With more and more people working from home will the need to commute become obsolete?
9.00 In Touch, Peter White with news and features for visually impaired people
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Grass is Singing, by Doris Lessing. Read by Janet Suzman (2/10)
11.00 Medfumware. A review of the week's media events with Vincent Hanna (r)
11.30 A Night with... Patrick Moore. The celebrated astronomer talks about his life-long fascination with the night-sky (4/6) (r)
12.00 News incl 12.27am approx Weather
12.30am The Late Book: Behind the Scenes at the Museum. The award-winning novel by Kate Atkinson. Read by Patricia Hodge (7/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

EQUESTRIANISM

Designer finds the right pitch

By Jenny MacArthur

IF TEEMING rain, which reduced attendance to just below the usual 200,000, and Ian Stark's showjumping debacle on Stanwick Ghost, which handed victory to David O'Connor, were the less rewarding memories of the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials last week, the sheer brilliance of the cross-country riding on Saturday was undoubtedly the highlight.

With the strongest field in the 48-year history of the event, the standard was always going to be high. Forty-five of the 76 horses who set out had no jumping penalties — including three young Swedish riders all competing for the first time. Helped by the going, 16 riders were clear inside the time — almost double the usual number.

It was not that the course was easy, more that the riders have become so good. When the sixth fence, the set of corners called the Mitsubishi M, was first introduced three years ago it prompted numerous run-outs. This year there was one. Similarly with the Vicarage Vee, the biggest corner (3ft 11in) allowed under the rules and once deemed Badminton's most frightening fence. This year only two riders faulted there.

When a "bounce" fence into The Lake was first introduced most riders chose the easier option. This year — when, admittedly, it was a more forgiving lake complex with shallower water and no jump out — most opted for the bounce. Only eight riders made mistakes.

The increased skill of the riders highlights the course designer's dilemma. Make it too demanding, as Hugh Thomas thinks he did last year at The Lake, and you risk "inexplicable falls", a course designer's nightmare. Make it too straightforward and the influence of the cross country on the overall event is diminished.

This year Thomas appeared to pitch it right: a genuine four-star track.

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English patience, from a different angle

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

What we do know about fishermen is this: they get up very early; they envelop themselves in thrift-shop clothing which, by international angling law, must include a garment with at least 28 pockets for storing emergency fishing items; they fill up a few tubs with live bugs which they keep in their fridge, but which you and I would call Rentokil to deal with; then they drive 70 miles to sit on a rainy riverbank and wait patiently for that rewarding moment when they finally catch a whopping dose of pneumonia. What we still don't know is why fishermen do all this when nobody is actually pointing a gun at them, or threatening to maim their first-born.

How is it that millions have been hooked by this hobby? If you believe **Tales from the Riverbank** (BBC2), it's because fishing helped to bring joy to people before Prozac came along. "If you want to be happy," advised Geoffrey Palmer in last night's opening programme of the six-part series, "learn to fish." This, apparently, they used to say in Ancient China. Look where it got them. Plenty of Hong Kong Chinese may be anxious to get their hands on a British passport, but you don't get the feeling it's because they all want to rush down to the Test to catch some trout.

Any other suggestions? A roach fisherman confesses to Palmer, our genial riverbank guide: "I love fishing. It gets me away from from the wife . . . the dragon." Another bewitched angler explains that: "A person doesn't go fishing. He obeys a summons." Palmer himself stumbles upon something when he wonders aloud: "How can something so frustrating be so universally popular?" Because, strangely, it is often the very things that are maddeningly frustrating which turn out to be popular (Paul Daniels excepted). But is that enough to explain why the Queen Mother and Jimmy Carter and Jeremy Paxman and Sting are all so entranced by fly-fishing?

Frankly, the mystery for us non-fishermen merely thickened when we read in this newspaper recently about the man who tied a salmon fly using his wife's pubic hair. He may well have caught a shoal of fish with it, but isn't it a little spooky that he actually thought of doing this in the first place? Is this the way all great innovators leap ahead? (Microsoft boffin: "We've still got glitches on the new software program, Bill." Bill Gates: "Whaddya say we tie a pubic hair onto the floppy drive?").

The filming is up to the usual standards of the BBC's Natural History Unit in Bristol, including dazzling underwater footage of perch, tench and roach pootling about between the rocks, trying to avoid baited hooks that are swaying hypnotically before their eyes, like metronomes. In keeping with its subject, the film moves at a languid pace: if you're the fidgety type who lacks the patience to spend a whole day trying to catch an itsy-bitsy perch, video the programme and watch it later on fast forward.

For those who like their fish-TV served on a bigger, brasher scale, Bernice Cohen is still trawling the shark-infested waters of the City in **Mrs Cohen's Money** (Channel 4), reeling in any corporate predator that she feels is making sushi out of defenceless, financially gullible minnows.

Mrs Cohen was focusing on savings and on how we must all put something aside for our old age: she means something in addition to our fantasy about winding up in the same old people's home as Isabelle Adjani.

This week's victim was George Mack, finance director of United Friendly, which had sold a pension plan to Bernice's cab-driver, Phil, who earns £24,000 a year and lives in East London with his wife Jackie and their young daughter, Courtney. Motormouth Bernice ("I had that Phil in the front of my cab once") thought the policy stank like an old kipper. "At the end of Year One," she tells Phil, squinting at the small print, "total paid to date is £600. Total actual deductions to date are £628." Phil, who likes receiving tips, but isn't so keen about giving one to his pension firm, felt duped. His wife Jackie lifted her jaw off the carpet and shrieked: "It's disgusting."

Mrs Cohen can't believe how apathetic we are about making our money grow: "I find it truly depressing." She is like your Jewish grandmother, who instead of asking you if you're eating enough, or whether you have a warm vest on, nags solicitously about whether you are providing properly for your old age. Don't be surprised if you start seeing a national chain of Grandma Cohen Financial Advice Bureaux, serving chicken soup and Tessas.

Alan Bleasdale's latest baby, **Melissa**, is a homage to thriller writer Francis Durbridge's original 1960s television script, translated to modern times and gussied up with a "prequel". In one of its grand scheduling flourishes, Channel 4 is showing all five parts at 9pm: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, with the final two episodes going out next week. So far the stars — Jennifer Ehle performs wonders as Melissa; Tim Dutton plays Guy Foster, a newlywidowed war correspondent who falls helplessly in love with Melissa on his return cruise trip to London from his posting in South Africa — sparkle far more than the script.

Four people died, more or less randomly, in last night's curtain-raiser. We weren't given the teeniest hint why, making it much more of a mystery than a thriller so far: we haven't been told enough yet to be sucked to the edge of our seats. For a thriller, *Melissa* seems strangely slow. Maybe, as with fishing, patience is eventually rewarded.

6.00am Business Breakfast (81110)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (93868)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (3100348)
9.20 Style Challenge (6571665)
9.45 Kilroy (7826313)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (18058)
11.00 News (T) and weather (7740058)
11.05 The Great Escape (7107058)
11.35 Change That (8368412)
12.00 News (T) and weather (8377329)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (8015435)
12.35 Going for a Song (9456435)
1.00 News (T) and weather (96955)
1.30 Regional News (86790348)
1.40 The Weather Show (99969435)
1.45 Neighbours (40889077)
2.10 Quincy (r) (6555139)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (6387232)
3.20 Skepper on Style Ethnic styles. (6421503)
3.30 Mouse and Mole (7228752) **3.35** Playdays (6773232) **3.50** Arthur (2393771) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (7515394) **4.35** Round the Twist (1352503) **5.00** Newsround (T) (4510435) **5.10** Activ-8. New series (T) (6389961)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (403394)
6.00 News (T) and weather (961)
6.30 Regional News (313)
7.00 Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt Kevin Woodford tries to become a concierge at Hong Kong's Mandarin Oriental Hotel; and Toyah Willcox starts work as a Verbier chalet girl (T) (1619)
7.30 EastEnders Lorraine's world comes crashing down around her ears (T) (597)
8.00 Children's Hospital Teenage burns victim Martin Stowell takes his first steps after having his big toe amputated and painful skin-grafts (T) (4139)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart Bigamy has its problems as Gary rapidly discovers (T) (9874)
9.00 News (T) and weather (5226)
9.30 One Foot in the Grave A lazy day messing about on the water turns into a nautical nightmare (r) (T) (49416)
10.00 Crimewatch UK Hemel Hempstead police appeal for help in catching the man who brutally assaulted a woman. Plus: two carbon-copy armed robberies in Southwick, Sussex, six months apart (615597)
10.45 The Beast of Lenny Henry (r) (T) (184226)
11.15 Film 97 with Barry Norman Reviews of *Anaconda*, with Jon Voight and Eric Stoltz. Oscar-winning films *Kolya* and *When We Were Kings*; Robin Williams, Morgan Freeman and Stockard Channing in *Mell Flanders*. Plus Stephen Fry on *Oscar Wilde* (181139)
11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (377400)
11.55 The Public Eye (1992) Joe Pesci stars in FILM a romantic drama directed by Howard Franklin as a lonely New York tabloid photographer whose encounter with glamorous nightclub owner Barbara Hershey leads to the discovery of a government scandal (806503)
1.30am Weather (3170530)

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8.00am Open University: Rome Under the Popes (8469503) **6.25** La Bonne Formule (8375110) **6.50** The Leaping Horse by John Constable (8888023) **7.15** See Hear Breakfast News (3758313) **7.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (8970665) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (1060023) **8.20** Juniper Jungle (8920961) **8.35** The Raccoons (3161597) **9.00** Study Ireland (10416) **9.30** Space Ark: The Environment (7403400) **9.45** Watch (7408955) **10.00** Teletubbies (51348) **10.30** Come Outside (6754503) **10.45** Science Zone (4741690) **11.05** Space Ark (7658023) **11.15** Go for It! (5308435) **11.30** Sportsbank (6801) **12.00** See Hear! (r) (27752)
12.30pm Working Lunch (54394) **1.00** Teaching Today (94597) **1.30** The Bible in Animation (53665) **2.00** Juniper Jungle (10530684)
2.10 The Fugitive (1947, b/w) Henry Fonda FILM stars as a priest who defies anti-clerical authorities in a small Latin-American country and continues his work among the peasants. Directed by John Ford (685684)
3.55 News (T) (5504503) **4.00** Blockbusters (5418752) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (5428139) **4.55** Esther: Eating Disorders (1316665) **5.30** Today's the Day (690) **6.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (426771) **6.25** Heartbreak High (503145)
7.10 The O Zone (986503)



Julia and her young family (7.30pm)

7.30 Home Ground A new series CHOICE of documentaries begins with Julia Booth, a 39-year-old mother of three, making a traumatic medical decision that could save her life (T) (139)
8.00 Two Fat Ladies Jennifer Paterson and Clarissa Dickson Wright prepare fish pie in Mevagissey in Cornwall (r) (T) (5481)
8.30 Food and Drink George Melly celebrates black pudding and Jilly Goolden and Oz Clarke taste vintage wines from the northern hemisphere (T) (7416)
9.00 Murder One A number of prosecution witnesses offer damaging testimony against Latrell (T) (707665)
9.45 Bloom or Bust? A look at how the Laura Ashley company plans to revamp its image after sales have dramatically dropped since the boom of the 1980s (656684)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (640690)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (847874)
11.15 Ruby Ms Wax chats to John Simpson and Eve Arnold (172232)
11.55 The Phil Silvers Show (r) (b/w) (562481)
12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Blue Haven (T) (47563) **1.00** Ecological Predictions (T) (12917) **1.30** Graphs, Networks and Design (28066) **2.00** The Experimenter/Space Ark (72725) **4.00** BBC Focus: Teaching and Learning with IT (64443) **4.30** Teaching and Learning with IT Special (93882) **5.00** Inside Europe (79714) **5.30** Film Education

8.00am GMTV (4753706)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (T) (6589684)
9.55 Regional News (3087619)
10.00 The Time, the Place (48874)
10.30 This Morning (62999690)
12.20pm Regional News (8374232)
12.30 News (T) and weather (9442232)
12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (45995226) **12.55** Shortland Street (9354023) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (70515329) **1.50** Afternoon Live (40782110) **2.20** Vanessa (40970481) **2.50** Afternoon Live (2762961)
3.20 News (T) (6432619) **3.25** Regional News and weather (6424690)
3.30 Wizadora (r) (6785077) **3.40** Potamus Park (r) (7233684) **3.50** Old Bear Stories (7239868) **4.00** Garfield and Friends (T) (4139619) **4.20** Waynehead (T) (7524042) **4.40** Island (T) (9527619)
5.10 The House Transforming a derelict Victorian house into a home for the 21st century (7005145)
5.40 News (T) and weather (679400)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (420597)
6.25 HTV Weather (402706)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (481)
7.00 Emmerdale Biff finally tells Linda the truth about his father (T) (6787)
7.30 Family Circles Following wrestler Saeed Esmaeli as he tries to emulate his father and qualify for the Olympics (665)
8.00 The Bill Greig enlists the help of two pensioners (5435)



Businessman Asil Nadir (8.30pm)

8.30 The Cook Report Roger Cook subjects fugitive executive Asil Nadir to a tough line of questioning (T) (1042)
9.00 Touching Evil CHOICE A two-part murder investigation begins with three hospital patients being murdered in one night (T) (7936)
10.00 News (T) and weather (28435)
10.30 Regional News (T) (149394)
10.40 Victoria and Albert CHOICE Prince Michael of Kent presents this dramatised reconstruction of the love between Queen Victoria and Prince Albert (1/2) (T) (312503)
11.40 Conspiracy of Silence Dramatisation following the true story of Helen Betty Osborne, a young Indian woman who was murdered in Northern Manitoba, Canada in 1971 (T) (182139)
12.40am Dating the Enemy (4241424)
1.40 Stand and Deliver Last in series (6132240)
2.40 The Chart Show (r) (4162725)
3.30 F1: Monaco Grand Prix Highlights form the weekend's race (76527)
4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (97608)
5.00 Heirloom (r) (66240)
5.30 News (59375)

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9354023)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7005145)
6.25-7.00 Central News (788394)
7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (665)
11.40 Highlander (182139)
12.40am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (9698733)
1.10 Film: Dance 'Til Dawn (917462)
2.55 In Focus (3642733)
3.40 The Big Match Replayed (1562288)
4.20 Central Jobfinder '97 (5578240)
5.20 Asian Eye (8006627)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (8293313)
12.55 Home and Away (8100868)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (22271684)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7005145)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (66139)
7.30-8.00 Animal Passions (665)
11.40 Highlander (182139)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (7005145)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (329)
6.30-7.00 Truly, Madly, Weekly (481)
7.30-8.00 The Parish (665)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (182139)
5.00am Freescreen (66240)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9354023)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7005145)
6.23 Anglia Weather (403435)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (788394)
7.30-8.00 Homemaker (665)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (644416)
11.40 Swift Justice (182139)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (87348)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (82706)
9.00 Bewitched (32684)
9.30 Ysgolion (172394)
12.00 House to House (25348)
12.30pm Ricki Lake (45690)
1.00 Slot Melthrin (96277464)
1.15 Pingu (91227989)
1.30 Waterways (44961)
2.00 Racing from York (4067)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (394)
4.30 Taste of the Times (706)
5.00 5 Pump (1665)
5.30 Countdown (918)
6.00 Newyddion (868446)
6.05 Heno (504503)
6.35 Sion a Sian (313868)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (534684)
7.25 Glangwili (989961)
8.00 Eryri a'i Chriw (3077)
8.30 Newyddion (9684)
9.00 The Roses of No-Man's Land (1706)
10.00 Brookside (153787)
10.35 Dark Skies (227481)
11.30 Northern Exposure (531961)
12.25am-1.30 Hill Street Blues (5794801)
4.00 Ysgolion (7597356)

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (87348) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (82706) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (32684)
9.30 Schools: Eureka **9.45** Stop Look Listen **10.00** Four Way Farm **10.10** Jacobites **10.30** Using Museums **11.00** Science in Focus **11.20** Stage One **11.37** Lost Animals **11.45** Scotscapes (172394)
12.00 House to House (25348)
12.30pm Light Lunch Cookery and chat (48416)
1.30 Waterways (T) (44961)
2.00 Racing from York Brough Scott introduces a four-race card. Includes **3.10** Tattersalls Musidora Stakes and **3.40** Stanley Racing Sprint Trophy Stakes (4067)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (394) **4.30** Countdown (T) (706) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (1665) **5.30** Pet Rescue An update on Chocolate Chip the kitten after the operation (T) (918)
6.00 Friends: The One with Two Parts Joey falls for Phoebe's identical twin sister, Ursula (r) (T) (428139)
6.25 Fluke Quiz show based entirely on chance (509058)
6.55 Fresh Pop (375868)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (282955)
7.50 Rhyme and Reason (T) (306503)



Nuns on the move (8.00pm)

8.00 Moving People CHOICE (2/6) Three nuns move to a Dundee council flat, a young Birmingham family move upmarket and a Cornish man moves to a bungalow for the sake of his desperately ill wife (T) (3077)
8.30 Brookside Susannah has to cope with Max's children coming to stay. Has Sinbad bitten off more than he can chew? (T) (9684)
9.00 Melissa (2/5) Guy finds himself caught up in a nightmare as the police begin their questioning. Continues tomorrow (T) (7433690)
10.20 The Kill-Off (1989) Thriller based on the FILM novel by Jim Thompson with Loretta Gross as a bedridden gossip who sets off a dangerous chain of events. Directed by Maggie Greenwald (T) (802752)
12.15am Film Night A report on the re-release of John Wayne's classic films. Fans such as director Stephen Frears consider his enduring popularity (8758998)
12.55 Dance Me Outside (1994) with Ryan FILM Rajendra Black, Lisa LaCroix and Adam Beach. The lives of two adolescents on a Native American reserve are dramatically affected by a murder. Directed by Bruce McDonald (5781337)
2.25 Powwow Highway (1989) with Gary FILM Farmer and A Martinez. Two friends embark on a journey across America. Directed by Jonathan Wacks (531917)
4.00 Schools (7597356) **5.15** The Wardrobe (8016004) **5.20** Backdate (r) (T) (9897820)

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (8866435)
7.30 Havakazoo (5548955) **8.00** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (8561077)
8.30 Wideworld Kate Bellingham examines how modern technology is making the world seem smaller (8560348)
9.00 Espresso (2428400) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (7005313) **10.30** Hot Property (r) (T) (8477684) **11.00** Leeza (9144684) **11.50** Double Espresso (34518874) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8468936) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (4570955)
1.00 5 News Update (49969874) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (3557597) **2.00** 5's Company (7079226)
3.30 Something So Right (1982) with Ricky FILM Schroder, Patty Duke Austin and James Farentino. A hard-working divorcée finds a "big brother" for her young son but gets much more than she bargained for. Directed by Lou Antonio (3326868)
5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (35334597)
5.30 100 Per Cent (9313077)
6.00 Whittle (T) (9303690)
6.30 Family Affairs Jamie disappears to the boat (T) (9221042)
7.00 Exclusive Gossip from the world of showbiz (6211333)
7.30 Animal Omens: Tool Users Documentary about the select band of creatures that have developed tool use (T) (9227226)



Ozzie Osbourne out to shock (8.00pm)

8.00 Fame and Fortune A profile of the former wildman Ozzie Osbourne (3752081)
8.30 5 News (2912526)
9.00 In Broad Daylight (1991) with Brian FILM Dennehy, Cloris Leachman and Marcia Gay Harden. A small town psychopath starts a campaign of terror against an elderly couple. Directed by James Steven Sadwith (90470329)
10.50 Exclusive Extra (4619077)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (5893752)
11.40 The Comedy Store A showcase for new comedians. Plus: Frank Skinner and David Baddiel reveal the worst comedy act they have ever seen and Greg Proops points out the difference between American and English comedy clubs (5377961)
12.10am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine featuring Indy car racing from Brazil (80629379)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4135153)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2483337)

8.00am Business Breakfast (81110)
9.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (93868)
9.20 Style Challenge (6571665)
9.45 Kilroy (7826313)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (18058)
11.00 News (T) and weather (7740058)
11.05 The Great Escape (7107058)
11.35 Change That (8368412)
12.00 News (T) and weather (8377329)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (8015435)
12.35 Going for a Song (9456435)
1.00 News (T) and weather (96955)
1.30 Regional News (86790348)
1.40 The Weather Show (99969435)
1.45 Neighbours (40889077)
2.10 Quincy (r) (6555139)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (6387232)
3.20 Skepper on Style Ethnic styles. (6421503)
3.30 Mouse and Mole (7228752) **3.35** Playdays (6773232) **3.50** Arthur (2393771) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (7515394) **4.35** Round the Twist (1352503) **5.00** Newsround (T) (4510435) **5.10** Activ-8. New series (T) (6389961)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (403394)
6.00 News (T) and weather (961)
6.30 Regional News (313)
7.00 Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt Kevin Woodford tries to become a concierge at Hong Kong's Mandarin Oriental Hotel; and Toyah Willcox starts work as a Verbier chalet girl (T) (1619)
7.30 EastEnders Lorraine's world comes crashing down around her ears (T) (597)
8.00 Children's Hospital Teenage burns victim Martin Stowell takes his first steps after having his big toe amputated and painful skin-grafts (T) (4139)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart Bigamy has its problems as Gary rapidly discovers (T) (9874)
9.00 News (T) and weather (5226)
9.30 One Foot in the Grave A lazy day messing about on the water turns into a nautical nightmare (r) (T) (49416)
10.00 Crimewatch UK Hemel Hempstead police appeal for help in catching the man who brutally assaulted a woman. Plus: two carbon-copy armed robberies in Southwick, Sussex, six months apart (615597)
10.45 The Beast of Lenny Henry (r) (T) (184226)
11.15 Film 97 with Barry Norman Reviews of *Anaconda*, with Jon Voight and Eric Stoltz. Oscar-winning films *Kolya* and *When We Were Kings*; Robin Williams, Morgan Freeman and Stockard Channing in *Mell Flanders*. Plus Stephen Fry on *Oscar Wilde* (181139)
11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (377400)
11.55 The Public Eye (1992) Joe Pesci stars in FILM a romantic drama directed by Howard Franklin as a lonely New York tabloid photographer whose encounter with glamorous nightclub owner Barbara Hershey leads to the discovery of a government scandal (806503)
1.30am Weather (3170530)

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (6684416) **9.00** Rogs and Fi (the Ice (51461) **10.00** Another World (23077) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (30319) **12.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (8826) **1.00pm** Sesame (9948811) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (96481) **3.00** Jenny Jones (8814) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (2581) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1874) **6.00** Real TV (8226) **6.30** Married — with Children (5738) **7.00** The Simpsons (3502) **7.30** UFASHS (4980) **8.00** Space (5023) **8.30** Real TV UK (7058) **9.00** Why Planes Go Slower (41958) **10.00** The Practice (64958) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (24706) **12.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (94452) **12.30am** LAPD (65225) **1.00** Hit Me (9105849)

SKY 2

7.00pm Sunrise (3770042) **7.30** Wish Bone (3004764) **8.00** Xena: Warrior Princess (7296522) **9.00** Pacific Blue (7284232) **10.00** Melrose Shorts (7283665) **11.00** Ally McBeal and Dana Delaney Hospital (7294232) **12.00** Hit Me (4299539)

SKY NEWS

Live news coverage and features on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

8.00am Running Free (1994) (70232) **9.30 The Slipper and the Rose** (1976) (4220658) **11.50 Stagecoach** (1966) (1377458) **1.50pm The Long Summer of George Adams** (1982) (2533832) **3.30 Running Free** (1994) (94232) **5.00 The Magic of the Golden Bear** (1989) (72858) **7.00 A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes** (1995) (3852) **9.00 Knightsdale 2010** (1995) (9954) **10.30 Leon** (1994) (7722) **12.20am La Ceremonie** (1995) (2918) **2.10 Wrestling Ernest Hemingway** (1993) (7497) **4.10 The Slipper and the Rose** (1976) (9499307)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Ramona (1936) (20155) **8.00 Bigfoot: The Unforgettable Encounter** (1994) (5455774) **9.45 I Remember Mama** (1948) (94332) **12.00 Lightning Jack** (1994) (26066) **2.00pm Panthers** (1956) (39077) **4.00 Bigfoot: The Unforgettable Encounter** (1994) (4348) **6.00 Another Midnight Run** (1994) (69400) **7.30: Special Feature: Horror Movies** (4400) **8.00 The Blaker-In-Law** (1985) (21058) **10.00 Dolores Claiborne** (1995) (32602955) **12.15am Lightning Jack** (1994) (6385611) **1.55 Dangerous Intentions** (1994) (8541653) **3.30 She Stood Alone: The Tailhook Scandal** (1998) (2366658) **5.05 Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse** (1983) (4133240)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Lady in the Dark (1944) (2909306) **8.00 The Coach Trip** (1988) (2901481) **10.00 No Mercy** (1986) (6948329) **11.50 Someone to Watch Over Me** (1987) (8853351) **1.40am Return to Salem's Lot** (1987) (1950578) **3.25-5.10 The Lost Weekend** (1945) (7270849)

TNT

9.00pm King Solomon's Mines (1950) (3744104) **11.00 Operation Crossbow** (1965) (65703435) **1.00am The Night Digger** (1971) (69891202) **2.45-5.00 The Hill** (1965) (30342240)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (53232) **7.30** Sports Unlimited (98961) **8.30** Racing News (69232) **9.00** Sports Centre (84684) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (23856) **10.00** Spanish Football (17400) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (77348) **12.30pm** A Season to Remember How the Premiership Was Won 1996-1997 (75046) **2.30** World Motor Sport (251329) **4.30** Sports Centre (94412226) **5.00** Wrestling Live Wire (6348) **6.00** Sports Centre (91110) **8.30** World Pool Masters (907042) **8.50** Sports Centre (586729) **9.00** The Footballers' Football Show (72752) **10.00** Sports Centre (78077) **10.30** World Pool Masters (97508) **11.30** Football Terrace Extra (306191) **1.00** Sports Centre (663754) **1.30** European Seniors Golf (97518) **2.30-3.00** Sports Centre (13356)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Sports Unlimited (96168706) **1.00pm** Women's Golf (95079226) **2.00** Watersports World (62672481) **3.00** NHL Ice Hockey (85600994) **5.00** Football Hall of Fame (80509868) **5.30** Sports Unlimited (12786294) **6.30** Sail-Sailing (23669635) **7.00** Sports Centre (30885332) **7.30** NBA Basketball (12879058) **9.30** European Seniors Golf (82923868) **10.30-11.30** British Professional Golf (39004690)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Ice Hockey (68145) **9.30** Speedworld (59232) **11.00** Football (70855) **12.00** Touring Car (12955) **1.00pm** Triathlon (94503) **2.00** Live Tennis (8195418) **5.30** Live Ice Hockey (58503) **7.30** Live Tennis (909818) **10.00** Football (73435) **11.00** Equestrianism (64348) **12.00-12.30** Olympic Games (34004)

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystack (8258329) **7.35** Neighbours (6579752) **8.00** Crossroads (8289685) **8.25** EastEnders (4820690) **9.00** The Bill (7166597) **9.30** Don't Wait Up (4476329) **10.00** Robin's Nest (4243300) **10.30** The Sullivans (7155461) **11.00** Casualty (21820941) **12.05pm** Crossroads (8888045) **12.30** Neighbours (4470145) **1.00** EastEnders (8870707) **1.25** Gingerbread Girl (7451955) **2.15** The Mistress (2124936) **2.50** 'Allo 'Allo! (3981868) **3.30** The Bill (3299636) **4.00** Boon (3876435) **5.00** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (6332684) **6.05** EastEnders (6572482) **6.40** Sykes (5168416) **7.20** Russ Abbot (9725868) **7.55** Rising Damp (7628145) **8.25** In Sickness and in Health (6758868) **9.00** The Bill (3872619) **9.30** Casualty (7242400) **10.30** Then Churchill Said to Me (5625752) **11.10** What a Carry On! (7488787) **11.40 FILM: Doctor at Large** (6727923) **1.20am** Private Schultz (5009646) **2.20** Shopping (75551801)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (45627064) **7.00** Classic Coronation Street (8385139) **7.30** Families (6410874) **8.00** Surprise, Surprise (1530446) **9.00** The Professionals (7549077) **10.00** Richard and Judy Exclusive (9394771) **10.30** Doctor on the Go (9825503) **11.00** Within These Walls (6323394) **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (9743955) **12.30pm** Families (5208495) **1.00** Crown Court (8327110) **1.30** The Good Life Guide (6658935) **2.00** This Year, Next Year (8285400) **3.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (9582047) **4.00** Surprise, Surprise (9874077) **5.00** The Professionals (2556787) **6.00** Families (2469435) **6.30** Classic Coronation Street (2450787) **7.00** Surprise Surprise (6721435) **8.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (6634955) **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (9663961) **9.30** The Comedians (4852351) **10.00-11.00** The Professionals (6720706)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm High Five (3209313) **4.30** Driving Passions (3205597) **5.00** Time Travellers (4690191) **5.30** Justice Files (3280077) **6.00** Wild at Heart (3282690) **6.30** The Global Family (3200042) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (4772145) **7.30** Disaster (3206226) **8.00** Discover Magazine (8473313) **9.00** Hitler's Henchmen (8566077) **10.00** The World's Most Dangerous Animals (8463936) **11.00** Under Fire (8177955) **12.00** Wings of the Red Star (8638004) **1.00am** Disaster (1100202) **1.30-2.00** Beyond 2000 (2531268)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Weapons at War (5061866) **5.00** Gangsters of the Golden Age (7750934) **6.00** The Home Front (3431666) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Mickey Rooney (1849348)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (5616) **7.30** Roseanne (5936) **8.00** Entertainment UK (8139) **8.30** Almost Perfect (3874) **9.00** Cheers (437520) **9.30** Cybill (99058) **10.00** Frasier (76619) **10.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (89139) **11.00** Club Class (55597) **11.30** Nightstand (523934) **12.30am** Sledgehammer (918011) **1.00** Cheers (649177) **1.30** Cybill (70066) **2.00** Entertainment UK (351911) **2.30** Club Class (11993) **3.00** Fraser (441153) **3.30-4.00** Almost Perfect (35676)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Armitage III (9354333) **8.30** The Twilight Zone (1350918) **9.00 FILM: Hell Comes to Frogtown** (69147787) **10.35 FILM: Glen and Randa** (52407597) **12.30am** Star Wars Trilogy: The Force Returns (7021917) **1.00** The Twilight Zone (9824795) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (5546085) **2.00** Friday the 13th (68966608) **3.00-4.00** Dark Shadows (3577089)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7164139) **9.30** Garden Calendar (4394771) **10.00** Screaming Reels (4341042) **10.30** Doing It Up (7156023) **11.00** Painted House (3787507) **11.30** This Old House (3788226) **12.00** Yan Can Cook (7240502) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (4476787) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (8063706) **1.30** Home Again (4477058) **2.00** Hometime (4778326) **2.30** Furniture to Go (3381961) **3.00** Two's Country Cooking (4689436) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (3397706)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula (91077) **6.30** Rocko's Modern Life (20416) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (51674) **7.30** Rugrats (674181) **8.00** Doug (655065) **8.30** Arthur (64874) **9.00** CBBC (49687) **10.00** Wimzie's House (48868) **10.30** Babar (711101) **11.00** Magic School Bus (36416) **11.30** Mr Men Thing Rollo/Barney/Topsy and Tim/Skyjet (37145) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (68690) **12.30pm** Little Real Stories (20974) **1.00** CBBC (21067) **2.00** The Wubbulous World of Dr Seuss (4503) **2.30** Fussybus (6023) **3.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (9510) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (8882) **4.00** Jumanji (3503) **4.30** Rugrats (9787) **5.00** Sister Sister (2955) **5.30** Moesha (7139) **6.00** Press Gang (7752) **6.30-7.00** Doug (4232)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High (44843493) **1.00pm** Madison (82502301) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (4391684) **2.00** Hangtime (4692955) **2.30** California Dreams (3385787) **3.00** Byker Grove (4777690) **3.30** 9-2-5 (3280232) **4.00** Sweet Valley High (3203139) **4.30** Hangtime (3292023) **5.00** Saved by the Bell (4769435) **5.30** California Dreams (3388609) **6.00** Byker Grove (3382416) **6.30** Madison (3204968) **7.00-8.00** Heartbreak High (8564619)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (8477139) **9.00** Monsters (3367787) **9.30** Twisted (4485077) **10.00** Tour of Duty (8556890) **11.00 FILM: Bad Taste** (2644706) **1.00am** Starsky and Hutch (40758200) **2.00** Tour of Duty (7223975) **3.00 FILM: Closet Land** (3668646) **5.00** The New Twilight Zone (2840997)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm** Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

CHALLENGE TV

Win win **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.05am Cross Wits (99386290) **5.50** Family Fortunes (4855021) **6.20** Days Out (8839990) **6.30** Catchphrase (3022213) **7.05** Winner Takes All (3426179) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (1409849) **8.20** All Clued Up (5662032) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (6286077) **9.25** InnOcuition (5639954) **9.35** Sale of the Century (5217061) **10.05** Treasure Hunt (9099313) **11.20** Studs (9616194) **12.00** Winner Takes All (5242349) **12.30pm** Hart to Hart (145111) **1.30** Moonlighting (48530) **2.30** Jake and the Kid (166461) **3.30** My Two Dads (404241) **4.00** Fall Guy (613271) **5.00** HSN Direct Shopping (82065)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (57646665) **9.00** Glastage and Glamour (77970591) **9.15** Golden Effort (71657771) **10.05** Jerr, Springer (44489115) **11.00** Young and the Restless (74066690) **11.50** Brookside (3557400) **12.25pm** Why Me? (19657771) **12.55** Tempest (71429368) **1.40** Rolanda (69014395) **2.30** Sally Jessy Experience (79044597) **3.00** Live at Three (99322145) **4



FOOTBALL 47
Sprint king keeping Chelsea on track down road to Wembley

SPORT

MOTOR RACING 50
Schumacher reflects on threat from a familiar quarter



TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

Captain passes first test as Australians hit the ground running

Fluent Taylor sets Ashes tone

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ALL those who seek to belittle the Ashes, to strip them of their traditional pre-eminence, should have been in Mayfair yesterday morning. The first sight and sound of the 1997 Australians would have convinced them of their folly.

It was not what they said but the way that they said it. It was not who was there but the way that they looked and listened. There is still no series in cricket quite like it, no contest that creates such anticipation, such instantly obvious glamour. Even allowing for the diplomacy demanded by the occasion, it was plain that Mark Taylor and his men shared the feeling.

They were just off a flight from Hong Kong, where they had stopped to stretch their legs with an exhibition game, but this Australia side, loyal to its modern ethos, was out to make the right impression from the start. Years ago, when image was not deemed so important, their predecessors may have arrived looking unkempt and sounding unapproachable. Today, this would not do. Heavens, they are even sponsored by Coca-Cola rather than some unpalatable lager.

Snape shines 48
Salisbury strikes 49

The players filed into the hotel conference room wearing sharp grey suits and tour ties. They were clean-shaven and remarkably bright-eyed. They also spoke with a friendly lucidity beyond the scope or desire of too many English contemporaries. It is not only in performance that England have fallen behind.

Taylor must long ago have wearied of questions about his batting form and how long he can remain captain without an improvement therein. Shane Warne, equally, is entitled to feel that he has exhausted the subject of his worn spinning finger, but you could sense no scorn, no impatience, from their smiling responses.

In his eager, upbeat style, Taylor reiterated his belief that he remained a good opening batsman and that his form would return. He was, he said, setting himself no deadlines. "I will be the captain until the selectors, and I am one of them, decide to leave me out," he said.

He reminisced about the 1989 tour, on which he had endured such a lean start that "for a time, all I could think of was September 9 and going home. Then, at Taunton, I was dropped on eight and went on to make a hundred. That's how quickly it can turn around.

"In the three weeks since we left South Africa, I have worked on the mental side. I was probably a bit stale, so I've been fishing, relaxing, just doing what I want to do. The only time I have picked up a bat was two days ago, when I packed it in my case."

Warne, as ever, was the magnet. As the formal part of the morning concluded, he was surrounded by a scrum of cameras, microphones, nodding television interviewers and furiously scribbling journalists. It was no sweat. Cricket has enjoyed few more natural celebrities.

He made his statements sporting a gold ring in his left ear rather than his more discreet stud, and wearing designer boots rather than formal shoes, but Warne would stand out anyway. He held court naturally, spoke articulately and, without being arrogant, positively. Then he agreed, good-naturedly, to stroll out onto the pavements of Bond Street and pose with Taylor for some corny pictures alongside a London telephone box. It was a model exercise in public relations and all England players, who know how aggressively different Warne can be as an opponent, would have ground their teeth at the charm of it.

Warne knows well enough how to play the media game: how to raise a laugh, how to speak brightly without betraying secrets. Asked whether England might learn "any new tricks" from the videos of him that they are due to study, he responded, in mock alarm: "It depends what videos they are watching." Quizzed on his recent injuries, he gave a detailed account of his return to "about 95 per cent" of full fitness.

"In South Africa, I bowled really, really well," he said. "I feel I am on the verge of something special here." And, because it was the time and place to say so, he expanded on his views of England — "our most prestigious tour", "the best wickets" etc.

It was a constantly repeated theme. Stephen Waugh, the new vice-captain, has a genuine love affair with this country. It does not extend to being nice to England's cricketers once a game is under way, for then there is no more uncompromising an opponent, but Waugh believes that this is the finest country in which to play the game and, now that he has a role as a spokesman, he intends to say so.

"This is always the best series of all, no matter whether we are the two best teams or not," he said. "England is like a second home to most of us and we find the crowds are appreciative. If you hit a four here, you will certainly get a clap, which is a bit different to a lot of other places."

The first claps, probably many of them, will be heard at Arundel on Thursday. Two days of net practice at Lord's precedes this opening fixture, but the Australians were not being allowed an idle first day. "This afternoon, we will have a session in the gym," Alan Crompton, the tour manager, announced. Warne, for the first and only time, looked less than delighted to be here.

PETER NICHOLLS



Warne, the likely scourge of England this summer, faced up to a media interrogation upon landing yesterday with charm and courtesy

AUSTRALIAN TOUR ITINERARY

MAY
Thur 15: v Duke of Norfolk's XI at Arundel (one day)
Sat 17: v Northampton (one day)
Sun 18: v Worcestershire (one day)
Tue 20: v Durham (one day)
Thu 22: 1st Texaco Trophy One-Day International at Headingley
Sat 24: 2nd Texaco Trophy One-Day International at the Oval
Sun 25: 3rd Texaco Trophy One-Day International at Lord's
Tue 27-Thu 29: v Gloucestershire or Sussex, or Surrey (3 days) depending on outcome of B and H Cup qualifying matches
Sat 31-Mon Jun 2: v Derbyshire (3 days)

JUNE
Thu 5-Mon 9: 1st Cornhill Test Match at Edgbaston
Wed 11-Fri 13: v First-class county TBC (3 days) depending on qualification for B and H Cup semi-finals
Sat 14-Mon 16: v Leicestershire (3 days)
Thu 19-Mon 23: 2nd Cornhill Test Match at Lord's
Wed 25-Fri 27: v British Universities at Oxford (3 days)
Sat 28-Mon 30: v Hampshire (3 days)

JULY
Thu 3-Mon 7: 3rd Cornhill Test Match at Old Trafford
Wed 9: v Minor Counties XI (one day)
Sat 12: v Scotland (one day)
Wed 16-Fri 18: v Glamorgan (3 days)
Sat 19-Mon 21: v Middlesex (3 days)
Thu 24-Mon 28: 4th Cornhill Test Match at Headingley

AUGUST
Fri 1-Mon 4: v Somerset (4 days)
Thu 7-Mon 11: 5th Cornhill Test Match at Trent Bridge
Sat 16-Mon 18: v Kent (3 days)
Thu 21-Mon 25: 6th Cornhill Test Match at the Oval

TOUR PARTY: M A Taylor (captain), S R Waugh (vice-captain), M G Bevan, A J Bichel, G S Blewett, M T G Elliott, A C Gilchrist, J N Gillespie, I A Healy, B P Julian, M S Kasprowicz, J L Langer, G D McGrath, R T Ponting, M J Slater, M E Waugh, S K Warne

Villa prepare to stake £7m on future with Collymore

BY DAVID MADDOCK

ASTON VILLA have agreed to pay a club record fee of £7 million for Stan Collymore, the Liverpool forward. The player will travel to Villa Park today for talks about a five-year contract.

Although the deal is still some way from being completed, an official at Anfield confirmed last night that a fee had been agreed between the two clubs and the player had been given permission to begin negotiations. The transfer now rests on Collymore being able to agree personal terms.

The move would bring to an end a troubled career at Liverpool for the 26-year-old. He signed two years ago for a British record transfer fee of £8.5 million, from Nottingham Forest, but he he was immediatedly dogged by controversy, which surfaced throughout his time at Anfield.

Collymore was dropped from the side soon after signing and complained bitterly in the media that he wished he had never signed for the club. When he finally replaced Ian Rush as the partner for Robbie Fowler, he managed 20 goals in his first season.

After the Cup Final defeat by Manchester United last May, however, Collymore again fell out of favour with Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager. That prompted a move from Villa before Christmas, but their original bid of £5 million was declined.

The forward's problems stemmed from a refusal to move to Merseyside. He became remote from his teammates and was again dropped consistently through a season that delivered just 16 goals.

He was replaced at half-time against Sheffield Wednesday on Sunday and has made little secret of the fact that he wants to play closer to his Cannock home, making the move to Villa an ideal one for him.

The transfer would appear a surprising development for Brian Little, the normally cautious Aston Villa manager, but he has indicated his readiness to risk the huge fee on the goalscorer's undoubted talents.

Evans will immediately move into the transfer market, should the move be completed today. He will use the proceeds to table a bid for Jari Litmanen, the Ajax and Finland forward, and for Paul Ince, who is at present with Internazionale.

Steve Gibson, the Middlesbrough chairman, has hinted that he may yet be prepared to take on the FA Premier League in an attempt to prevent the club from being relegated. Gibson has yet to reveal whether he will contest the deduction of three points — which ultimately cost Middlesbrough their place in the FA Carling Premiership — in the High Court.

He said that he was prepared to fight league officials. Speaking about the decision to dock the points after his club failed to fulfil a fixture at Blackburn Rovers, Gibson said: "We have people running the game who don't understand it. The people at the top are a banker, a lawyer and an administrator and it is not just my feeling they don't understand the game, it is the feeling of other chairmen."

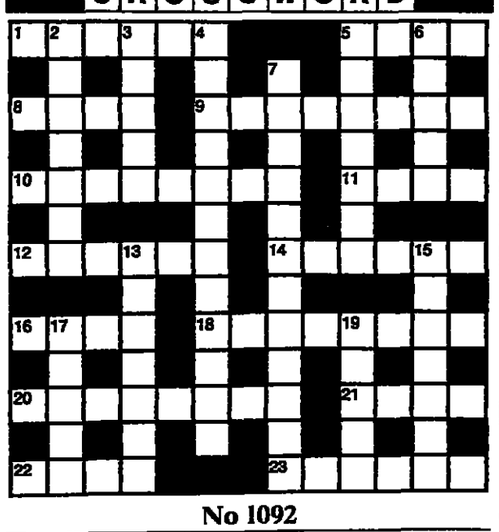


Collymore: unhappy

Liverpool have indicated that they will withdraw Steve McManaman and Robbie Fowler from the England squad announced by Glenn Hoddle last week. Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said yesterday that both players need operations and would be unavailable for all the summer international matches.

Slavan Bilic, the West Ham United defender, will travel to Merseyside today for a medical and is expected to be unveiled as an Everton player tomorrow.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1092

ACROSS
1 Unoccupied (6)
5 Spoonful of medicine (4)
8 Emile —, *Germinal* author (4)
9 Reckless hooligan (8)
10 Mix into water (8)
11 Versifier (4)
12 Likely source of harm (6)
14 Aircraft shed (6)
16 Frothy sweet: MPs' instructions (4)
18 A midget (3,5)
20 Man sitting under sword (8)
21 Smallest piglet (4)
22 Religious splinter-group (4)
23 Informal (6)

DOWN
2 Do away with (7)
3 Collect in large numbers (5)
4 Trivial gossip (6-6)
5 Unrevealing (face) (7)
6 Frighten (5)
7 Confront (bad) consequences (4,3,5)
13 Use; feat (7)
15 Ex-Soviet republic, cap. Yerevan (7)
17 Throw with effort (5)
19 Egyptian falcon-headed god (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1091
ACROSS: 1 Miss World 6 Pub 8 Uptight 9 Clean 10 Heir 11 Braindish 13 Mighty 14 Behind 17 Hard copy 18 Comb 20 Farwa 21 Ulysses 22 Shy 23 Eagle-eyed

DOWN: 1 Maugham 2 Sitting pretty 3 Wage 4 Retire 5 Decanter 6 Precipitously 7 Bunch 12 Stockade 15 Debased 16 Sprung 17 Huffs 19 Type

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New method has cricket fans struggling to know the score

Ivo Tennant on the system of revising one-day targets that is baffling many

One-day cricket never was other than an artificial exercise. In days gone by, a simpleton could comprehend that if one county scored 200 runs in their allotted overs, then their opponents would be victorious by making more. This season the advent of the Duckworth-Lewis system for resolving run-rates required for rain-affected matches has turned such simplistic thinking on its head: the side batting second can now win by scoring *fewer* runs in the same number of overs.

The umpires have refused to cope with the new computations. The scorers are finding them a burden. The public are baffled and have written to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) to say so. The media are equally uncomprehending. "In the Texaco series I shall rely on my bearded computer. Bill Frindall, because my limited mathematical brain finds the whole thing incomprehensible," Henry Blofeld, of *Test Match Special*, said.

The system, which is being used in England for the first time, is the brainchild of Frank Duckworth, a freelance statistical consultant, and Tony Lewis, a university lecturer. Their idea is that if a side batting first loses overs through rain, its final score is increased to a projected score. "To achieve this, an average total score is used to calculate the average score which would have been achieved during the lost part of the innings."

To the layman, this is gobbledegook. To the Association of County Cricket Scorers, which has been given special tuition at Lord's, it means a considerable amount of work. "We have been put upon," Ted Lester, their chairman, said. A helpline has been set up for cricket managers and, if necessary, scorers. "We felt some would struggle to do the compilations manually," John Carr, the ECB's cricket operations manager, said.

Peter Byrne, a statistician employed by the BBC, feels the new system is bizarre. "How can you have one side scoring 155 off 23 overs, as happened at Hartlepool on Sunday, and the other left needing 154 to win? That has to be absurd. If there was an electronic breakdown of computers, it could take half an hour for the scorers to work out the runs required from charts based on statistical data from past matches. Even more complications would arise if the second innings is interrupted, as well as the first. For someone not mathematically adept, this would impose a burden."

Carr accepts that followers of the game will find the system alien. "It is possible scorers will make mistakes calculating run-rates and, if the worst comes to the worst, I imagine a match could be played again. But we will check the scorers' compilations to make sure they are done correctly. The International Cricket Council believes it is a fair system and so do we."

Defeat for Rusedski on return

GREG RUSEDSKI, the Great Britain No 2, returned to the ATP tour after a two-month absence and lost 7-6, 7-6 to Albert Portas, of Spain, in the first round of the Italian Open in Rome yesterday.

Rusedski has been suffering from wrist trouble and had not played a serious match since beating Tamer El Sawy, of Egypt, in St Petersburg on March 17 before withdrawing from the tournament.

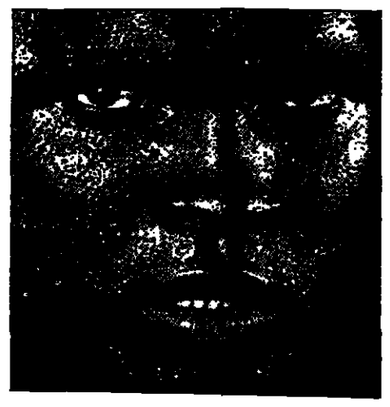
Portas, ranked No 67 in the world, was a qualifier for the tournament. Rusedski, ranked No 39, served 12 aces and had his chances, particularly in the opening set.

He broke Portas to lead 5-3. However, the Spaniard broke straight back and the game went to a tie-break, which Rusedski lost 9-7.

There were no service breaks in the second set but, in the tie-break, Rusedski served a double fault to trail 2-4, fought back to 4-4 but then lost three successive rallies for Portas to win 7-4.

Tim Henman, due to return, after an elbow operation, in Rome today, has dropped to No 18 in the world rankings.

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